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one jew [illegible]
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a pianist [illegible]
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BY SUSAN GREEN, p24a

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SEVEN DAYS.
Wrap sheets.

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december 12-19, 2001

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YOU HAVEN'T MOVED TOO FAR, DAD — MAYBE WE SHOULD GO CHRISTMAS SHOPPING INSTEAD
BE QUIET IT'LL SNOW

question

If you were a tree ornament, what would you look like?

I would look like some kind of symbol for peace. That's the main thing I'm thinking about this holiday
— Claude Lehman
Potter, Claude
Lehman Pottery
Burlington

Some kind of a helix — a swinging mobile sort of thing — because I'm pulled in many directions during the holidays, as well as in this period of my life.
— Sally Duval
Craftsperson,
Artisan's Hand
Montpelier

I would look like the bad puppy who knocked over the Christmas tree; I'm feeling a little frazzled by the holidays.
— Mark Dowling
Owner, Ben Franklin
South Burlington

I think I would be white lights, because they are classy.
— Jessica Bates
Herbalist, Purple
Shutter Herbs
Burlington

NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION:

What's your winter clothing pet peeve?

Send your answers to question@sevendaysvt.com. Include full name, job title and place, and town. Thanks!

WEEKLY MAIL

STRANGEFOLK'S NEW VOICE

Just wanted to thank Colin Clary for his review of Strangefolk's new CD *Open Road*. One important correction, however: The band's new lead vocalist is Luke Patchen Montgomery and not Luke Powell Smith, as Colin wrote. Right band, wrong Luke. Luke Smith is Strangefolk's long-time drummer. Just wanted to set the record (in this case the CD) straight. Thanks!

— **Russ Weis**
Burlington
Russ Weis is Strangefolk's Vermont manager

THANKS FOR WAKE-UP CALL

Thank you for "Crank Call," November 7, by Peter Kurth. I'm sure that it did bother those people in Connecticut as it would anywhere around this country. I do believe that September 11 was a wake-up call for America, but many of us are still trying to hit the snooze button for those last few minutes. The house (world) is on fire and many of us would prefer to continue with the ongoing party rather than face reality. Thank you for the reminder. Let us all wake up!

— **Esther Moore**
East Providence, Rhode Island

CHEERS FOR CRANK CALL

I really enjoyed the article by Peter Kurth ["Crank Call," November 7]. I must say, I would have loved to be in church the day that minister delivered his sermon. I would have stood up and cheered!

— **Oby Thomas**
Seattle, Washington

FREYNE AND GUV'S SCHEDULE

I've never considered Peter Freyne a serious journalist but merely a puppeteer for Howard Dean and the liberal power brokers in this state. But in recent weeks that assessment is altering as Peter Freyne seems to have a genuinely deep concern for the truth. He's rather boldly expressing that noble motivation by assertively exercising his "free speech" and "free press" First Amendment rights.

Apparently there is a growing rift between Peter Freyne's long-worshipped political hero Howard Dean's inability or rather unwillingness to keep his press secretary, "sweet Sue" Allen, properly informed of Howard's traveling itinerary that extends far beyond the boundaries of the Green Mountains.

Should Governor Dean be giving so much attention to such extensive traveling and to the national Democratic party as it grooms Howard for national office? He's away far too much at a time when any governor ought to be in-state dealing consistently and intently on issues like nuclear power plant and border security, developing new and comprehensive home-state security protocols and focusing on the budget cuts while considering the state's $100 million rainy-day fund. Sorry, that fund is not that huge, after all, as Peter Freyne points out.

It seems Peter and the press at large, have been kept in the dark about various political travel activities, like a "private dinner" out in California or a "private dinner" in Washington. Peter has been very curious as to the hush-hush hidden agenda of travel plans. He went so far as to write in his October 10 column, "... we suggest the good doctor embrace honesty as his very best policy, especially when it comes to his public out-of-state travels as governor of Vermont."

Perhaps finally and hopefully Peter Freyne and other fair-minded reporters and editors, are coming to realize what many independent and conservative-minded people believe: that when it comes to planning self-serving political advancement, Howard Dean is at the head of the class.

— **Robert Skinner**
South Hero

NO EVIDENCE FOR SNOWMOBILE HARM

Tom Fugate's personal dogmas and dislikes ["Weekly Mail," November 7] apparently can't stand opposing opinions, let alone inconvenient opposing facts, namely that there's no scientific evidence anywhere that snowmobiles harm wildlife. He also berates my "ilk" as motorized scum. For the record, Mr. Fugate, I am an avid Nordic skier, not a snowmobiler as you assumed (though I have found that "ilk" to be nice folks). I was not defending the sport, only that quaint journalistic notion, that stories (and views) should be informed and based on facts, no matter how inconvenient to one's fervently held environmental dogmas. I doubt Mr. Fugate's mind is open, but if he cares, the relevant impartial scientific studies that found no measurable impact on wildlife were done by the Universities of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Maine and the U.S. Forest Service — all reaching the same "shared" conclusion, by the way.

As to his rant on pollution, I

continued on page 10a

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Inside Track

BY PETER FREYNE

Ouagadougou?

Our favorite presidential hopeful is visiting Africa this week, attending an international AIDS conference and enhancing his foreign affairs resume.

Gov. **Howard Dean** M.D. has suddenly become Vermont's premier world traveler. Since September 11, he's been to Germany, Russia, Poland, Lithuania, Finland and Canada. Now he's in the heart of deepest darkest Africa — the landlocked nation of Burkina Faso, a former French colony once known as "Upper Volta." Dr. Dean is attending the 12th International Conference on AIDS and STDs in Africa. Maybe he'll find a way to drop in on Afghanistan soon?

Ho-Ho's spending the week in Ouagadougou (wa-ga-doo-goo), the capital of Burkina Faso. Making the trip with our Guv are his darling daughter, **Anne Dean** (the next **Chelsea Clinton**?) and his Vermont State Police security detail. According to Dean's press secretary **Susan W. Allen**, the governor is personally paying his daughter's travel expenses. Those of the state troopers are paid for by Vermont taxpayers. More on that later.

According to the U.S. State Department, "U.S. citizens traveling to and residing in Burkina Faso are urged to exercise caution and maintain a high level of security awareness at all times. Street crime in Burkina Faso poses high risks for visitors. Thieves are especially active during international meetings or events which draw large crowds to the capital. Travelers should stay alert, remain in groups and avoid poorly lit areas. Be especially cautious at night."

Good thing's Ho-Ho's got those troopers along, eh?

Before arriving in Ouagadougou, Ms. Allen told *Seven Days*, the Guv and his travel mates stopped off in Bamako, the capital of neighboring Mali. They met with the U.S. ambassador, the Mali minister of health and six Peace Corps volunteers from Vermont. Small world!

More Good Press! — Vermont's governor picked up a very nice plug Saturday in a big newspaper out in America's heartland — Kansas.

Columnist **Steve Kraske** of the *Kansas City Star* introduced Vermont's White House hopeful to the folks out on the prairie over the weekend.

Bet you've never heard of Howard Dean.

There's really no reason you should have. He's governor of Vermont, and a fairly nondescript one at that.

But here's some inside skinny: The early word is that Dean is the smart guy's sleeper candidate for the 2004 Democratic presidential nomination.

On paper, at least, Dean has the kind of profile that will catch the attention of many Democrats. A governor for 12 years, he's a fiscal conservative and a social moderate. He has an impressive record of balancing the budget during good and tough economic times. He's big on child health-care coverage and the environment.

And he's said to be a straight-shooter — brash, tough and blunt. A Democratic John McCain.

In short, he's worth checking out.

A Democratic **John McCain**?

Who is this guy — the Wizard of Oz?

But Mr. Kraske goes on to point out that the big mucky-mucks of the Democrat Party are in the process of changing the primary campaign set-up in a way that dims the hopes of longshots from Vermont. **Terry McAuliffe**, the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, is trying to move up all the state presidential primary dates to as early as possible. That way the 2004 Democratic presidential candidate will be determined by the end of February or early March at the latest.

The Kansas columnist notes:

Here's the rub. Front-loaded primary schedules place a tremendous premium on fund-raising. Only candidates with loads of cash can wage effective campaigns in multiple states at once.

So the idea of a little-known contender, such as a Howard Dean, gradually emerging from the pack, as Jimmy Carter did in 1976, just isn't going to happen. Pulling a Carter out of the primary morass takes time, and Dean isn't going to have any.

The Democratic nominee almost certainly will be the candidate who can stockpile the most cash in the months leading to January 2004. That means the fat cats, not you regular folks, will be making the choice.

Picking a presidential nominee should be a long-term effort. Democrats want to turn it into a one-night stand.

Best of luck, Howard Dean. You're going to need it.

Up And Running — Meanwhile on the World Wide Web Candidate Dean has finally arrived. His official political action committee Web site is up and running at www.fundforahealthyamerica.com. Check it out. It's the best evidence to date of how Ho-Ho is packaging himself for national consumption. It's where he gets to define himself before the critics take notice.

"Governor Dean is considered a common sense moderate who believes that social justice and environmental protection can only be accomplished through strong financial management."

"The Vermont Record" page lays out what Dean considers his five best selling issues: fiscal discipline, health care coverage, education, environment and equality. That's right, equality.

"Building on a commitment to equal rights for all Americans, Governor Dean has signed into law tougher penalties for hate crimes, as well as tighter restrictions against discrimination in the workplace, housing, public accommodations and more. Vermont is the first state to legally recognize long-term committed unions between gay and lesbian couples."

There, he said it.

First at Bat — This could get interesting. The Vermont Republican Party contest for the nomination for governor, that is.

This week, the longshot in the GOP primary, **Cornelius "Con" Hogan**, had his first head-to-head with the capital press corps in Montpelier.

King Con gave his education pitch. "Equal educational opportunity" for Vermont kids, said Hogan, is about a lot more than money. He called for the "elimination" of the Act 60 sharing pool that's anathema to gold towns.

Unfortunately, like all the other Act 60 bashers, he still hasn't been able to figure out a legal way to do that. Getting the famous mechanism out of the fairest public education plan in the country is, indeed, a daunting challenge.

King Con has, among other things, run the corrections department and the human services agency. He just wrapped up his duties as chair of the Governor's Bipartisan Commission on Health Care Availability and Affordability.

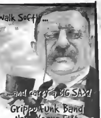
(By the way, the commission's report is available for your online scrutiny through the State of Vermont page — www.state.vt.us. The report has so far drawn surprisingly little notice.)

Mr. Hogan of Plainfield certainly offers a contrast to his opponent, **Jim Douglas** of Middlebury. Hogan is a newcomer to electoral politics. Douglas has been a party apparatchik for more than 30 years.

"I'm going to wear the fact that I've never run for political office like a badge of honor," Hogan told the press pack Monday. "I think people are ready for that."

Vermont's Hulk Hogan has never before had to

Inside Track continued on page 32a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Odd, strange, curious and weird but true news items from every corner of the globe

nEWs QuiRkS

BY ROLAND SWEET

Curses, Foiled Again

Police in Des Moines, Iowa, reported that a man tried to steal some cigarettes from a convenience store but accidentally dropped the cigarettes and his wallet, then became trapped in the store when one of the clerks pushed a button that locks the doors. The robber apologized to the store employees and said he would like to forget the matter, but the clerks activated the store alarm. In the process, they apparently pushed the button that unlocks the doors, and the robber kicked the door open and fled in his car. Harpal Singh, one of the clerks, said he was on the phone a few minutes later giving police a description when the man returned to get his wallet. He listened as Singh told police the robber was 5 feet 10, then corrected him: "I'm six two." "About six-two," Singh told the police, "and about 38 years old." The robber interrupted again: "I'm 34." Police quickly arrested Steven Hebron, 34.

Mensa Reject of the Week

Bryan Allison, 24, suffered possible multiple fractures when he fell 20 feet to the ground while throwing a 25-inch television set off the second-floor porch of his home in Niagara Falls, New York. Police Detective James Lascolo said the incident occurred when Allison and his 19-year-old brother decided to toss the TV after they watched a videotape of a 1989 hockey playoff game and became upset over the outcome.

Adding Insult to Injury

When John Schuett went to work for Valiant Networks, he received a $2500 signing bonus. In October, the San Jose, California, telecommunications firm laid him off and demanded that he pay back half the bonus because he didn't stay at the firm the full year he had agreed to.

Least Justifiable Acts

Steven Brenneman, 47, of Bloomington, Indiana, was injured during a 10-minute shootout with a Monroe County sheriff's deputy. After Brenneman was taken into custody, deputies said he told them the reason for the shooting spree was that he was agitated because he had been constipated for some time.

- Charles George of Phoenix, Arizona, was riding on a Greyhound bus traveling 70 mph when he grabbed the steering wheel, causing a crash that injured 33 people. According to Greyhound spokesperson Jamille Bradford, George tried to take control of the bus after he became angry because he wasn't allowed to smoke on the bus.
- A 54-year-old man died after being stabbed in the chest while trying to break up a brawl at a Philippines karaoke bar. The incident occurred after a group of drinkers complained that the man with the microphone was singing out of tune. The singer confronted the group, and a fight ensued. Although the report didn't identify the song being sung badly, newspapers recently reported that Philippines karaoke parlors have been removing Frank Sinatra's "My Way" from playlists because fights often break out when that song is sung.

And Yet We Won the Cold War

Recently declassified documents disclosed that the CIA spent $16 million to turn cats into walking bugging devices in the 1960s in its efforts to uncover the Kremlin's deepest secrets. The project, dubbed Acoustic Kitty, took five years to design. "They slit the cat open, put batteries in him, wired him up," Victor Marchetti, a former agency officer, said. "The tail was used as an antenna. They found he would walk off the job when he got hungry, so they put another wire in to override that." Marchetti recalled the first live trial was a disaster: "They took it out to a park and put him out of the van, and a taxi comes and runs him over. There they were, sitting in the van with all those dials, and the cat was dead."

In Mine Image

After charging Joshua Bennett, 19, of Cleveland with fracturing his 5-month-old son's head, Cuyahoga County prosecutor Bill Mason explained, "The information we have is that he tried to shape the baby's head to make it look like his head."

When Guns Are Outlawed

Three men and a woman robbed a Chinese-food delivery man in Britain's West Midlands by hitting him with a bag of prawn crackers. They made off with his food but were apprehended after police noticed a trail of spicy sauce leading from the scene of the attack to a nearby apartment.

Rear-Ended

Ireland's Circuit Civil Court heard that Deirdre O'Farrell injured her bottom, legs and back when a pub toilet mysteriously collapsed under her. O'Farrell said she heard a rumble and an explosion a split second before she was thrown forward. Angela Carroll, a lounge waitress, told the court that O'Farrell admitted a couple of days after the incident that she had touched up bruises on her bottom with make-up blush before having her injuries photographed. The pub settled with O'Farrell and sued the plumber who fitted the toilet bowl a few weeks before the incident.

Rubber Words

British inventor Graeme Prendler has patented the "anti-abuser" for people whose jobs subject them to complaints from the public. The device has a microphone and an amplifier that records the abuse and plays it back at the abuser. It can be set to send back particular portions of sentences, such as swear words, immediately. If throwing people's words back at them doesn't stop them, the device resorts to a deafening shriek.

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Guys Night Out

By Jernigan Pontiac

I was driving two big guys to a house in Malletts Bay. Apparently they had been downtown on the prowl for women and had struck out. They were disappointed and expressed it with anger — the one emotion so many men in our culture give themselves permission to display. Not, thankfully, smash-the-cab-window angry; just peeved-and-ornery angry.

We were driving past a downtown bar when my seatmate turned to his buddy in the back and said, "Randy, you know I went to school with the guy who owns that place."

"You're kidding, Tommy," Randy replied. "That guy is a big, fat faggot — a real flamer."

"Tell me about it. The funny thing is his family owns that auto supply place, and they're all normal."

We turned onto North Champlain Street, en route to the Northern Connector. I just listened to their conversation. I hate this kind of dull, casual prejudice. Sometimes I say something; usually I don't — unless the customer tries to enlist me in it.

Tommy did. He suddenly spoke to me. "What, man? You must think something about what we're talking about."

"You really want to know?" I asked.

"Well, yeah."

"I, myself, am completely disinterested in what another man does with his penis, so long as he isn't hurting anybody. I mean, Christ, don't we have more important things to worry about in this world than that?"

"Sure, okay," Tommy said. "I don't have any trouble with gays. It's just the flamers. They should be sent away to some island somewhere. They make me sick. Do you see what I'm saying?"

"Look," I continued. "I got something to say about that, but you ain't gonna like it."

"No, no — go ahead, man. I want to hear it."

"I look at it like this: If you're secure with who you are, being a heterosexual and all that, why should it bother you even one bit if some other guy wants to dress up and act all girly-girly? I mean, who cares?"

> "Sure, yeah, riiiight," Tommy came back. "That's it — I'm 'insecure' in my sexuality. Maybe I just can't stomach flamers. Didja ever think it could be as simple as that?"

"Sure, yeah, *riiiight*," Tommy came back. "*That's* it — I'm insecure in my sexuality. Maybe I just can't stomach flamers. Didja ever think it could be as simple as that?"

"I don't know what it is for you, man," I conceded. "I truly don't."

I've been in conversations like this before, and it seemed like the right stop to get off the train. At a certain point, these debates are not about logic or reason, so why bother? Still, there was something about this guy's attitude — a part of him seemed cognizant of how wrong he was, even while he continued spewing garbage.

"Okay," I ventured. "You wanna try this one on for size? This is the thing about these guys you're calling 'flamers.' You know how sometimes acting like a man can be a pain in the ass? Like being tough and macho all the time gets a little tiring? Well, these 'flamers' couldn't care less! I mean — God bless 'em — they've totally opted out of the whole 'manly' game. Ain't it refreshing in a way?"

"What the *friggin* hell are you talkin about, man?" Randy, who I thought had tuned out of the conversation, apparently had been listening quite intently. And he didn't like what he was hearing.

"One of those guys comes on to me?" Randy continued. "I'll kick his freakin ass so fast. I'll knock out him *and* his family!"

"Well, that's something else," I replied. I was in too deep to get out now. "We're not talkin about anybody hurting on anybody."

"Don't listen to Randy," Tommy said. "Believe me when I tell ya, he's a bigger moron than me."

"Oh, yeah?" Randy shot back. "Well, I *might* be, like, a bigger moron than you, but you're a bigger faggot than me!"

Oh, this guy's brilliant, I thought. He's like the mother who, in the heat of an argument, calls her offspring a "son of a bitch."

We were nearing the end of the Connector, crossing the wide Heineberg Bridge into Colchester. This had been one dopey discussion, I noted to myself, though not a heck of a lot different from so many of these late-night taxi palavers.

We turned right onto Tommy's street, coming to a stop in front of his family's home. Apparently Randy was staying overnight; there was some talk of Spaghettios and ESPN 2. We pulled up to the house, and Tommy turned to me as he fished out the money for the fare.

"I want you to know something," he said. "I'm the only one in my family who thinks this way. They're all, like, real liberal and everything. They don't understand how I believe this stuff. So don't hold it against them."

I couldn't hold my tongue. This whole thing started with a conversation about "normal" families and their supposed black sheep.

"Let me get this right, man," I said. "You're worried that your intolerant attitude might reflect badly on your family. Did you ever consider that this 'flamer' guy who got you so in a tizzy, well, his family might be completely accepting and even proud of him?"

"Jeez," Tommy replied. "That's kinda ironic."

"Yeah," I said. "Kinda." ⑦

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Back Talk

By Paula Routly

THE MONOLOGIST PREPARES: You don't say "break a leg" to Spalding Gray these days. The 60-year-old monologist was shaky on stage last Saturday as a result of a recent automobile accident in Ireland that damaged his hip. He can still climb up on a massage table, though, for his ritual pre-performance rub down. Former Burlingtonian **Alison Granucci** came up from New York to meet his kneads. The diminutive dancer first worked on Gray five years ago, when he was in Vermont performing "It's a Slippery Slope." She's been his main masseuse ever since — and celebrity photographer Annie Leibovitz and writer Susan Sontag have her now, too. When it comes to rehabilitation, Gray is definitely in good hands. A decade ago, Granucci was shot in the head — at point blank range — by a drifter who wandered into her Burlington studio. She made a complete recovery, moved to Rhinebeck and works full time as a program planner at the Omega Institute. Gray's gig "was a good excuse to visit Vermont," she says, noting the actor is "still definitely healing" from his accident. Gray was among friends on the way back from his 60th birthday party when he was hurt, according to Granucci. She says he was sitting in the backseat, sans seatbelt, next to the widow of Timothy Leary. Hmmm.

PRINTS CHARMING: The first **Phish** fan showed up at one o'clock — a full four hours before the official opening of the annual "Print Project" fundraiser for Burlington City Arts. Anything for first right of refusal on eight prints made by guitarist **Trey Anastasio**, one of the creators featured in the art event that calls itself the "hottest sale of the winter." Artists **Barbara Zucker, Sumru Tekin, Gail Salzman, Ruth Pearson** and **Stephen Huneck** took turns on the city-owned press and donated the resulting prints to the cause. So did political activist **Robin Lloyd**, who came up with a series of studies on burka-clad women that turned out to be the most topical works in the show. City Arts "members" got early access to the art, priced at $100 per print. By 5:30, when the doors opened to the public, it was almost all sold — except for the pieces designated for silent auction. Weekend bids for the remaining "Anastasio" drove the price up to $825. "One guy was bidding for another guy over a cell phone," says Firehouse curator **Pascal Spengemann**, noting the show raised just under $10,000 for Burlington City Arts. … Last month, Waterbury photographer **Peter Miller** single-handedly scared up $11,700 by auctioning off 16 of his large-format World Trade Tower photos to benefit the families of restaurant workers who perished there. "We were not sure what to expect," says host **Steve Schmuler** of the Mist Grill, "but after the first photo went for four times the minimum bid, I knew we had a crowd that was going to make the night a big success." The average price per photo was just over $700.

EATING IT UP: You've got to trust the butter judgment of Thomas Keller, one of the most discriminating chefs in America. The culinary force behind The French Laundry in Napa Valley is sold on the spread from Animal Farm in Orwell — a two-cow operation run by Vermont farmer **Diane St. Clair**. "He thinks it's the greatest thing with sliced bread," says St. Clair, who hand-kneads her Jersey-generated product. Demand quickly outpaced supply when the better butter was written up last year in *Gourmet* magazine. But St. Clair sent a sample to Keller anyway. He called back immediately and became her biggest customer, ordering up "whatever I can send him," she says. With overnight shipping, that works out to be about 16 pounds a week at $14 a pound. The rest is divvied up among an Italian restaurant on Nantucket, Middlebury College, the Middlebury Co-op and Healthy Living in South Burlington.

Could it have been a potato leak that tipped off *The New York Times* to a new cookbook by Williston author **Molly Stevens**? *One Potato Two Potato* kicked off a holiday round-up last Sunday in the *Book Review* — the writer's reference to "primeval comfort" suggests that may be what readers and eaters are craving this year. Food writer Corby Kummer goes on to suggest the book delivers "everything you could want from a potato, really, with a startling lack of contrivance … Just terrific recipes and tips." Like lots of butter and salt.

ROOMS WITH A VIEW: **Mark Gauthier** has bowed out of his booking duties at Red Square — further evidence of his waning commitment to the popular Church Street bar. He's been focused more on Club Metronome since he and his partner **Jack O'Brien** bought the nightclub above Nectar's. **James Harvey** and **Brett Hughes** have taken over the job of making the music happen at the Square. … The FlynnSpace program has taken one giant leap since it opened last September. "So many different groups are using it," says Flynn Artistic Director **Arnie Malina**, listing off events that range from solo vocalists to sweet 16 parties and a recent blowout called Planet Dyke. It's getting increasingly difficult to find dates available — next fall is filling up fast, according to Malina. If demand for intimate venues keeps up at this rate in Burlington, you can bet the FlynnSpace won't be the final frontier. ⑦

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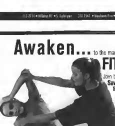

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Weekly Mail

continued from page 4a

can only assume after reading it that Mr. Fugate eschews cars and bicycles everywhere, never uses a lawn mower, chainsaw, motorboat, weed-whacker or rototiller. I commend him for his exceptional virtue.

— **Andrew Nemethy**
Adamant

BACON-SCENTED CANDLES?

Ahhhh yes. "Few foods are more comforting than bacon." I couldn't agree more. Growing up in North Carolina, where pigs are abundant and bacon flows freely, I have come to cherish that oh-so-delectable flavor of pork. In addition to the myriad ideas presented in Gretchen Giles' piece ["Makin' Bacon," November 14] I have a few other thoughts that might tempt the olfactory and gustatory senses of Vermont pork lovers.

First, in an attempt to be more ecologically minded, I've devised an idea for all the unused bacon grease withheld from the kitchen drain: Bacon-scented candles. A little paraffin wax and a wick mixed in with the congealed grease, and BOOM! — you have the pleasure of bacon cooking any time you want. (Note: This may or may not cause a grease fire. I have yet to give it a test run.)

Secondly, I think Burlington is long overdue for a Porksicle stand on Church Street. Porky Pig Push-ups (with bacon-flavored sherbet, of course), Frankfurter Sensations, Bacon Buddies (similar to Nutty Buddies, but with crumbled bacon on top instead of nuts), and the Ol' Fashioned Porksicle (much like the Mickey Mouse ice cream bar but in the shape of Porky Pig). Anybody in?

— **Chris Gordon**
Burlington

WORLD LOOKS THE SAME

In your November 14 issue Peter Freyne begins his weekly news commentary by stating that since September 11 "it's a different world." During my lifetime I have witnessed different events which caused America to lose its "innocence," such as the atomic bomb detonations, the Kennedy and King assassinations, the Vietnam War and others. Now finally on September 11 I have witnessed *another* event that is bringing us into a "new" world. All of which makes me feel like an alien from outer space. My day-to-day life has remained unchanged through it all. In fact, my life has never been palpably affected by any of the other "serious" events of our time — by the outcome of any election, any sporting event, any strike, any temporary shortage or what have you.

Before I return to Mars, I do wish that Freyne and the other news media people who talk about lost innocence, new eras, new worlds and the like would provide examples and explanations of all these life-changing events and situations. Until then I will feel not so much lucky by being unaffected but, rather, I will feel left out.

— **Raymond Leary**
Shelburne

INNOCENTS, NOT PERPS BEING KILLED

Hey — isn't it funny that food drops and cluster bombs just happen to be the same color? Sonuvagun. How'd that little detail slip by Washington? Maybe because this "war on terrorism" is more about oil politics than freedom and justice.

In October, Pakistan's Islamic leaders and the Taliban got bin Laden to agree to stand trial in Pakistan for the September attacks. Bush pushed Pakistan to quash the deal, aided by mainstream media who looked the other way. We're being had. Not a single perpetrator of the September attacks has been caught by our bombs, but innocent civilians have. Now we're expected to jump for joy because the mightiest army in the world has just bombed the daylights out of a nation of starving goat herders already half-dead from the CIA's dirty little war of 20 years ago. What's just about the strongest kicking the butt of the weakest?

The Northern Alliance, who we're joyously putting in power, are heroin-dealing murderers and torturers with connections to U.S. oil conglomerates. Our administration favors them because they'll clear our path to the last remaining oil reserves in the Caspian sea, which the Taliban would never have done. In the name of justice we've destroyed another country and handed it over to a new set of thugs. The first Reagan-Bush "war on terrorism" did much the same in South America. This is a twisted victory. I'm mortified and deeply ashamed by what my government's doing in my name.

— **Mark Berux**
Hyde Park

NEWEST VERMONTERS WANT VILLAGE FEEL

Laurie Essig's article ["Gotham Goes North," November 7] gave testimony on the potential influx of NYC residents fleeing Gotham for the safe confines of Vermont. This is a surprising reality of September 11 but one that we should take seriously. The terrorist actions may seem distant, but they may have a direct impact on Vermont — even greater numbers of immigrants who might not have considered moving here before.

This is not an abstract concept to contemplate over coffee, but is an actual phenomenon that realtors are confirming — and it should be planned for. In doing so we need to consider what people from NYC and other cities are looking for when moving to Vermont. Realtor Debbie Burton comments that people don't want "country," but a smaller city. These people are used to living near services, and have no desire to jump from vibrant city life to living "in the sticks."

Many of the new residents may want to move into existing cities and villages, where they can walk to services and their work, me public transportation be part of a neighborhood and have a sense of community. They want to enjoy similar attributes that made life in NYC so appealing.

Should we be catering to these new immigrants? I don't look at it that way. I see it that people who are living in fear in large urban centers will come here regardless of whether we plan for them or not. So instead of accommodating this increase by building even more houses on our farm and forest land away from services and amenities, let's give the city people what they want — a pedestrian-oriented, convenient environment. By doing this we will be giving them the best that Vermont has to offer — life within our small communities and towns.

We need to channel our growth into our downtowns and villages, thereby keeping the rural landscape working, open and accessible. This simple strategy is not only good for our new arrivals from NYC, it is good for us and good for Vermont.

— Evan Goldsmith
Project Manager, Vermont
Forum On Sprawl
Burlington

HARRY QUESTION: BOOK OR MOVIE BETTER?

And now for a review from a *reader* of the *Harry Potter* story...

Columbus took on an almost impossible undertaking when he signed up to direct *Harry Potter*. Can anyone remember the last time a book had the same or greater impact than a new movie or television series? It appears almost as though the public at large had long been starved for some truly imaginative and fun adventure. The starving masses were well fed with the *Harry Potter* series, that is for sure. How does one possibly make it into a movie? If the director turned from the book too much, the movie would never make it with the millions of dedicated followers and would be critics. Columbus made a choice... the movie is for fans of the books.

As a big fan myself I was very happy that he made that choice. Frankly, the casting was excellent, the effects better than I imagined. There was much left out. I suggest to the non-readers to pick up the books and then go back again, or better yet, wait about eight years for another director to reinterpret the story for the screen, much like the *Dune* story. The first was for the readers, the second for non-readers. All in all, it was more than worth it to see a Quidditch match on the screen. I can't wait to see more Quidditch...

— Heather Caldera
Huntington

FREYNE COURAGEOUS

Again I am sardonically amused at the pretentiousness emitting from the Vermont right wing. Attempting to distinguish between "homeland" and "foreign" Taliban in criticism of Inside Track, Tayt R. Brooks [Weekly Mail, November 21] conveniently forgets his Franklin County neighbors' protection and assistance for David Kopp prior to (and perhaps after) the assassination of Dr. Bernard Slepian.

Mr. Brooks also neglects to mention the white trash peddling bioterrorism techniques on the U.S.A. gun-show circuit. However, it is questionable whether Ashcroft, Rove, Ridge, *et al.* will accuse, detain and prosecute their own kind until an evil event occurs.

Peter Freyne courageously questions the liberty-threatening actions undertaken post September 11 by the federal government rather than following the faceless cowards in the editorial rooms at the local Gannett franchise and the national corporate media as they goosestep behind a selected president.

God bless keeping Americans ignorant, happy and patriotic.

— **Stephen A. Jarvis**
Swanton

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Oy, Tannenbaum

A tree-thinking Jew sizes up the Christmas conifer

ILLUSTRATION: ABBY MANOCK

By Ruth Horowitz

To tree, or not to tree? In homes like mine, where I am Jewish and my husband is not, that is the question. Our situation is hardly unique. According to recent estimates, fully one-third of married American Jews have non-Jewish spouses. Hallmark cashes in on this trend with a cheerful card showing a house with a Christmas tree displayed in one window and a Chanukah menorah in another. But for lots of families, accommodating that seasonal competing clamor isn't quite as cut-and-dried as the card's comfortable image might suggest.

In our case, for nearly two decades the Christmas tree question sat quietly in the corner of our marriage: always there, but never discussed. Since we always celebrated Christmas at the home of David's parents, I could easily disavow the tree we trimmed there as belonging to the Christensens. And I was more than willing to do just that.

I preferred not to think about David's modest dream for a tree, which paled beside his willingness to have a Jewish wedding and to give our children a Jewish education and my last name. Better not to remember the first year of our marriage — the only year we've ever stayed home for the holidays — when a beautifully bedecked evergreen brought the smell of winter into our Los Angeles apartment. Easier not to dwell on the realization that ever since the kids came along and I started feeling more seriously Jewish, the notion of a tree had been sitting less and less easily with me.

"My parents have no objection to your lighting a menorah in their home," David argued, his voice tense. "So why should you object to their having a tree in yours?"

I never took the time to examine my tree aversion. But the longer I harbored it, the more attached to it I grew and the gladder I was that geography and family were enabling me to keep it under wraps. I'd always assumed that respite would only last as long as David's parents hosted us for Christmas. But the crisis that finally forced me to find out what the tree really meant to both of us was my mother's final illness.

I'd flown to New Jersey to spend December taking care of her. I had left David and the kids in Vermont with eight sets of little packages, one for each night of Chanukah, and the assurance that they would follow what had become our family's unalterable holiday itinerary — Christmas in Rochester with the Christensens, and New Year's with the Horowitzes in New Jersey. But two days after I arrived at my mother's, David called to tell me his parents had offered to come to Vermont to help out while I was gone. And as long as everyone would already be together, it only made sense that they should celebrate Christmas there, in our house, with a tree.

His words galled me. Here I was, absorbed in the heartbreak of figuring out which foods might be smooth enough to slide past the tumor in my mother's throat, and he was changing his plans in Vermont? Here I was worrying about unplugging my mother's oxygen long enough to let her safely watch what would no doubt be her last Chanukah candles, and he was broaching a topic he knew I preferred to avoid? Crazy with self-pity, I heard his proposal as some sort of *coup d'état* — the very worst form of betrayal.

But to David, this adjustment in arrangements seemed only reasonable. While I panicked and fumed, he quietly and logically laid out his position, absolutely certain of the justice on his side. He reminded me of how far he, an adamant atheist, had come in accommodating my desire to raise our children — *his* children — in my religion. Compared to their four hours of Hebrew school each week, our daughter's recent bat mitzvah and the Passover Seders we all celebrated together, the Christmas tree he would put up was really quite insignificant.

"It's not a logical issue," I told him. "It's a gut one. Will you explain to your parents how uncomfortable I am with the idea of having a tree in my house?"

I was hoping that once my in-laws understood the situation, they would veto the tree idea. But I also knew that even if they did, David would try to override their vote.

"If you do end up having a tree," I said, "will you at least get rid of it before I come home? I don't want to see it there."

"Are you sure?" He sounded hurt. "I thought it would be sort of nice to leave your presents there, so they'd be waiting for you when you get home."

For the briefest moment, I could almost taste the sweetness of his vision: his home, his tree, his family reunited, gifts for his wife. If I'd allowed myself to linger a little longer in the moment, I might have also understood why this image meant so much to him. Though David had been brought up without religion, his family did share some long-loved traditions, and one of their most treasured was Christmas. Our children, who had grown up spending Christmas with his parents, cherished this tradition as well.

"My parents have no objection to your lighting a menorah in their home," David argued, his voice tense. "So why should you object to their having a tree in yours?"

"This is too much for me to think about right now," I said.

What is a Christmas tree, anyway? Ancient Pagans observed the winter solstice with green branches symbolizing rebirth. Five hundred years ago, Germans started decorating their homes on Christmas Eve with "Paradise Trees" hung with apples representing sin, communion wafers signifying forgiveness and roses in remembrance of the Virgin Mary. To many devout Christians today, the Christmas tree connotes the cross. But for most Americans, including my very secular in-laws, a Christmas tree is merely a Christmas tree, fun to decorate, a pleasure to enjoy and a great centerpiece for exchanging gifts.

What the tree meant to the Horowitzes was a lot more complicated. The fact of the matter was that our adamantly Jewish family — like my mother's adamantly Jewish family before us — celebrated Christmas. Every Christmas Eve, we hung our stockings. Every Christmas morning we awoke to a miracle of gifts. And every Christmas afternoon we tucked into roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, with wreath-shaped ice cream molds for dessert.

After my brother and sisters and I married and started spending Christmas with our non-Jewish in-laws, the Horowitz celebration of stockings and gifts and wreath-shaped ice cream molds shifted to New Year's Day. We took to calling it, with some self-deprecation, "Fake Christmas." But for all our Christmas exuberance, real or fake, we drew the line at public displays. We never strung lights on our house. We never hung a wreath on our door. And we never, ever had a tree.

"It seemed like a fair compromise," my mother mused the next morning, as we talked over the crisis in Vermont. "We did it for the children, so you wouldn't feel deprived," she explained.

But a tree? "A tree isn't necessary," she declared. "A tree makes a very strong statement about the identity of the household."

What we did among ourselves was one thing. Just because we liked candy canes didn't make us not Jewish, or Christmas a Jewish holiday. But that nuance was likely to be lost on our neighbors. It was vital to demonstrate that everyone on our street wasn't exactly alike — that our family, at least, had not been subsumed by the dominant culture.

For my parents, especially, helping to raise the first generation of post-Holocaust Jews, being the only house on the block without Christmas lights was an act of defiance, a message to the world that centuries of persecution and murder and forced conversions hadn't succeeded in wiping us out. That we weren't trying to "pass" as non-Jews. That we weren't the sort of people who considered our own long-beleaguered minority religion so totally impoverished that we had to go borrowing someone else's traditions — although that was, in fact, exactly what we were doing, behind closed doors.

No doubt, an unstated sense of shame further fueled our anti-tree fervor. Maybe we had succumbed to this big, beautiful holiday. But did we also have to advertise the fact?

These were the rules with which I'd grown up. Being good meant abiding by them — or at least appearing to do so. I'd always been proud of the comfort my mother took in the Jewishness of my home, and I could see that David's unexpected readiness to change the rules now struck her as a bad omen. Maybe we were raising her grandchildren as Jews while she was around to watch, she was thinking. But what might we do over her dead body?

As the day wore on, her position hardened. But as my panic receded and my thinking grew clearer, I moved oh-so-slowly the other way. As the grip of her anxiety began to release me, I started seeing David's side of the story. I began to understand that a tree — which came so loaded with difficult and confusing implications for the Horowitzes — was, for the Christensens, simply evergreen and ornaments: beautiful, beloved and essential. What we were dealing with here, I finally realized, wasn't some crafty encroachment on undefended territory. It was simply a variation in styles of celebration — just a bit of tinsel on a bough. Why should something so benign make everyone lose so much sleep?

When David called that evening, he was still indignant. He called my anti-tree attitude selfish, hypocritical and intolerant. But I was grateful when he told me that, in spite of all this, he and his parents understood how hard things were for us in New Jersey and didn't want to add to our stress. So his parents would only stay in Vermont while the kids were in school, and then they'd all drive to Rochester for Christmas. The status quo would stand *for now*. But David assured me, quite firmly, that this was only a temporary accommodation.

All this happened three years ago. Since then, the tree question has lost its former menace. Ironically, much of my new attitude has come from my growing certainty of myself as a Jew. Lighting Sabbath candles with my family on Friday night, leading prayers and reading Torah in the synagogue — things the Horowitzes never did when I was growing up. I know who I am and don't need the absence of a tree to remind me.

Though I can't claim to be eager to put up a tree in our home, I know that David and I will share one. And the sweetness of that vision feels a lot more important than what the neighbors might think. If our tree confuses them about the nature of our home, they can always come inside and get to know us.

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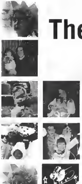

The *Seven Days* of Christmas

Holiday memories from our, well, stable of writers

John Dicker	p.14a
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Jeanne Keller	p 21a
Nancy Stearns Bercaw	p 22a

At 26, I was living the dream: single, unemployed and sponging off my parents. No rent, no responsibilities, no life. How did the downwardly mobile bachelor fill his days? By watching the entire PBS Civil War series, reading *Anna Karenina*, and ingesting hearty doses of anti-depressants.

When that failed, I auditioned for the part of Santa Claus at a local shopping mall. I was hired for the weekend shift at eight dollars an hour.

Nine years earlier, I had worked at the same mall in a radically different capacity: as the Easter Bunny. Since then, the mall had witnessed the ascendancy of retail dynamos like Van Heusen and Farberware and rechristened itself "The Outlet Center."

I had followed college with a string of bad professional decisions.

"Ho! Ho! Ho!" If I chuckled this with sufficient enthusiasm, I thought it might deflect attention from the squalor of my costume. The sagging synthetic beard tested the faith of each child who dared take a hard look. I also suffered from inadequate belly stuffing and a young face. This was not lost on passing shoppers.

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>
> **"Can I see some ID there, Santa?"**
>
> **Kiss my arctic ass.**
>
> **— John Dicker**

"Can I see some ID there, Santa?"

Kiss my arctic ass.

Interrogating youngsters about the state of their moral character did not provide the sadistic titillation I had counted on. The downright earnestness of the kids was humbling, if often pathetic. I quickly learned that as a character, Santa is one-dimensional, inchoate. What do we really know about his elf laborers? His wife? His distribution system? During my tenure as the Easter Bunny, I was instructed not to speak, which served to shroud me in mystery. Kids had fun trying to make me talk. Santa offered no such protection. To make things worse, I discovered many parents were using me as a training-wheel Santa for a pending pilgrimage to "the real Santa Claus" at FAO Schwarz or Macy's.

On my second day, there was such a paucity of shoppers that I concealed a novel in gift-wrap. I said it was my list — the one I checked twice. So what if Tolstoy wrote it? During one of very few busy periods, a girl of no more than 7 inquired about my cookie and milk preferences for Christmas Eve.

"I'll pass on the cookies, but I'll take any Zoloft you might have."

The girl gazed up at me with fear and a nascent incredulity.

"Ho, Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas!"

— John Dicker

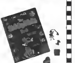
Christmas is a dark time of year in more than the cyclically sunless sense. All the regimented merriment of the annual consumer carnival leads straight to estrangement for more than will admit it.

Still, a few Christmases past do stir sweet memories. And this December thoughts focus particularly keenly on a succession of holiday seasons beginning around 1966.

Those were coming-of-age times — a special stretch of life when the advent of personal independence coincided with the onrush of a crazily exciting era. It was also when grade-school infatuation and passing adolescent lust gave way to something resembling true love.

So now these images come cascading back: wintry walks, hand-in-hand along the Rockaway shore; midnight subway rides to see the towering tree and the deserted skating rink below it; whooping New Year's Eve parties in apartments hung with tin angels and Fillmore East posters. How beautiful all of us are — especially her — in those

Continued on page 16a



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Seven Days of Christmas

continued from page 15a

unfaded moments. How certain we are of love's permanence and our individual immortality.

Impossible though it seems, first love does, of course, get supplanted by other loves, which draw each half of the original pair further and further apart until, eventually, there are different families living hundreds of miles from one another. The holidays of middle age, with the ever-more-distant memories they enkindle, only affirm how separate two once-mingled lives have become.

Friends of friends do provide occasional news, however: the birth of a son, the wedding of a sister, a completed marathon, a new job back in the city now that the kids are almost grown and the suburbs have become insufferable.

Then, one day — September 12, to be exact — a final piece of news arrives: "Oh, no, Kevin, you won't believe it: Rene was working on the 96th floor of the north tower, and she's not been heard from since the first plane hit."

The memories that Christmas are all the sweeter for the sorrow they entail. I wrote in love and homage to you, Rene. I'm so sorry how it turned out.

— *Kevin J. Kelley*

At age 4, I was an *Army* brat living with my parents in Augsburg, Germany. We had two Christmases there and, while a German Christmas has many things to recommend it — the chocolates, for one — I remember best the day the two scary men came to our apartment. Well, one scary man and another somewhat more benign one.

The scary one had a bundle of switches, a.k.a. long, thin sticks, over his shoulder and regarded me menacingly. The other man resembled Santa Claus in Druid mode — I learned later the Germans called him Saint Nicholas. The large bag of candy he carried was enticing, but his long robe and pointy beard were off-putting. Like one of those evil Grimm Brothers characters who tries to lure children into harm's way, he didn't seem to have the costume quite right. And I'm certain he didn't say "Ho-ho-ho" or shake like a bowlful of jelly as a real Santa should.

Though the Scary Man with Switches spoke to my mother in halting, guttural English, I was given to understand that one of his sticks was to be applied to my rear end if I had not been a good little girl. By this point I was hiding behind my mother and grasping her skirt in trepidation, guiltily recalling several times I had, in fact, been oh-so-slightly naughty during the preceding year. I looked hopefully to the Nicer Men with Candy, but his formidable expression did not seem capable of twinkling.

My mother fudged for an eternity, finally deciding that I had been good enough, whereupon the Nicer Man with Candy must have given me some. This point I don't recall for sure, but I do know that I was spared the rod.

And to this day I have my theories about the terrible psychology of Germans and the excellence of their chocolate.

— *Pamela Polston*

Once settled on the pot, she handed me a book. "Read to me," she entreated, holding out a Bible written entirely in French.

— Gretchen Giles

At age 12, I was randomly selected by my grandmother to help her onto the toilet after the goose had been both cooked and served. She was recovering from her second amputation yet still strangely glamorous in emeralds and lipstick, wrapped in a silk Diane Von Furstenberg dress, drenched in liberal amounts of Joy, gin and good wine — just a snifter of opiates on the side.

"How's Marlene?" My grandfather had been asked while she was still in the hospital.

"Shorter," he snorted.

While the rest of the family blindly waved their glasses around the table, arguing about George McGovern, I morosely stayed with my grandmother in the bathroom. The thick glitter of her jewelry and unguents was enlivened by the glint of those steel bars and pulls necessary to aid those who can no longer walk. Once settled on the pot, she handed me a book. "Read to me," she entreated, holding out a Bible written entirely in French, not the native tongue of a family whose last name is O'Connor. "*Jesu Cris*," I miserably began as she groaned softly.

When we returned to the table almost an hour later, no one looked up.

— *Gretchen Giles*

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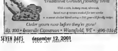

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At my grandparents' house on Christmas Day in 1998, I listened as my younger cousins debated: What was the best Christmas present they had ever received? The Nintendo? The video camera? The karaoke machine? They turned to our grandfather, who was watching a golf tournament and a football game on his split-screen TV. "Grandpop," they asked, "what was the best Christmas present you ever got?"

My grandfather was a fighter pilot during World War II, but he rarely speaks of his war experiences. He surprised us by muting the television to tell us a wartime story.

One Christmas Day, he said, he was called up to fly a mission over Italy. A dogfight broke out. Many planes were lost. He was lucky to have survived.

Unfortunately, he had become disoriented; cloud cover obscured the ground. He wasn't sure where he was or what was beneath him.

Soon two other American planes appeared; my grandfather knew one of the two pilots. United, the three of them flew on together, relying on their instruments to find their way. As their fuel dwindled, the third pilot suggested that they descend below the cloud cover to see where they were. My grandfather, a born skeptic, disagreed. He didn't know the guy, didn't trust him.

When the other two planes broke off, he continued on his course, until he was sure he was flying over water. Then he descended to get his bearings. He made it back to base, barely arriving before his fuel ran out. Days later he learned that the other two pilots had dropped from the clouds and smashed into the side of a mountain.

We were all stunned into silence. What do you say to someone who survives something like that? What do they say to themselves? My laconic grandfather is not one for public introspection. He said simply, "Best present I ever got."

— *Cathy Resmer*

"The Japanese are not great inventors, but they're great at improving on something." Such was the conventional wisdom among the expatriates with whom I spent Christmas in Kyoto in 1986. Having been in Japan only a month, I didn't have an opinion on the matter, but I did sometimes feel as if Japanese people were studying me, maybe planning a smaller, more efficient version. At the language school where I worked, for example, I spent most days just conversing with students in a casual format we called "lobby talk." I was essentially a specimen in a *gaijin* petting zoo.

Being the newest *male* specimen at Christmas time, however, entailed a more serious duty: donning a Santa Claus outfit for the company party. I dreaded it, especially when informed that the previous year's Santa, a guy from Brooklyn who spoke fluent Japanese, had sung weepy Japanese ballads through the karaoke machine. I'd be expected to sing, too.

The holiday blues hit hard on the day of the party, when the other *gaijin* on duty — an upstate New Yorker named Shannon — and I were asked to decorate the school. We were provided a box of ornaments, relieved of our lobby-talking duties and trusted to do our best.

After decking the halls in grand style, Shannon and I ducked out for a stroll through the underground malls of our ward. Seeing the store windows decorated in Christmas motifs, and sharing the company of another North American, put me firmly in the holiday spirit. Little did we know that while we were out, our Japanese coworkers were redecorating.

Although some of our decorations remained in roughly the same places, our notions of what a Christmas party should look like had clearly served only to *inspire* the Japanese variation. Their decorative scheme was more efficient, I had to admit. But then, I'd never thought efficiency a particularly Yuletide value. I felt

Continued on page 18a

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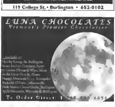

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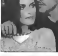

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Seven Days of Christmas

continued from page 17a

very far from home indeed!

If anyone had looked deeply into Santa's eyes that night, they'd have seen it. If they'd listened closely to my rendition of "White Christmas," they'd have heard it. Karaoke never lies: I really was dreaming of a white Christmas, "just like the ones I used to know."

— *Erik Esckilsen*

My father, an electrical engineer, was an inventor at heart. One of his biggest "Eureka!" moments came with development of the Audio Robot. The name might seem amazingly futuristic, but in the early 1960s, the small device for synchronizing taped sound with a slide projector was only slightly ahead of its time. He never made any money with that gizmo. In fact, it practically bankrupted him.

His proclivity for the newfangled and the offbeat really emerged one Christmas, a holiday that invariably persuaded my Jewish atheist parents to cave in to the peer pressure of our devout Catholic neighborhood in Queens. They would never go so far as to have a tree, of course, but these three children came to expect well-wrapped presents from an ambivalent Santa on the Danish Modern coffee table next to the fireplace.

When I was about 6 — or whenever you're too old for a tricycle but too little for a two-wheeler — my father bought me what he must've thought was the greatest Christmas gift of all time: a four-wheeler. The nonmotorized bike was bright red and shaped like the chassis of a car. I thought it looked bizarre, and I've never seen another one since. Back then, I was mortified. Kids want to fit in. It was bad enough we didn't attend church like everyone else on the block. Did he have to choose a bicycle that would make me a freak?

I thanked him, but immediately hid it in the garage. And that's where some friends soon spotted the red menace. Although I steeled myself for ridicule, the envious youngsters scrambled to take turns riding the "quadracycle." Jewish or not, I was suddenly the most popular girl on 45th Road.

As an adult, I came across a wise saying: "Reasonable people adapt themselves to the world. Unreasonable people expect the world to adapt to them. Therefore, all progress is made by unreasonable people."

Only in retrospect am I truly able to appreciate my otherwise conventional father's unreasonable pipedreams. I don't think four-wheelers ever became a national phenomenon, but maybe there's still hope for the Audio Robot.

— *Susan Green*

It was bad enough we didn't attend church like everyone else on the block. Did he have to choose a bicycle that would make me a freak?
— Susan Green

Christmas in the Caribbean is a great way to avoid the sugarplum rush, but when the relatives follow suit, it's better to be home for the holidays. My mother-in-law had the bright idea of getting both families together on Tortola in the British Virgin Islands, where my now-ex husband and I spent five or so consecutive Christmases at a funky campground on the beach. This time we converged at a high-end resort.

My in-laws knew my sister had been severely anorexic for 30 years, weighing in that Christmas at about 45 pounds. But nothing could prepare them — or any of us — for the sight of her strolling down the beach, a walking skeleton. They all had theories, especially my brother-in-law. "Hell of a way to get attention," he hissed after a couple of cocktails. "What *happened* to her anyway?"

The next morning, my sister didn't wake up. She lay in bed, eyes open, in a coma, clutching the covers around her neck like a baby bird. My husband couldn't find a pulse but determined she was breathing. We called an ambulance — *the* ambulance, I should say, because it was the only one on the island. It took an eternity to arrive over roads washed out by a recent hurricane, but the nurse, in a starched white uniform, managed to find a vein and got her hooked up to

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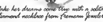

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an IV My sister's glucose level was 18

She regained consciousness in the ambulance, on the way to the hospital But not before I attempted to explain to the island emergency medical technicians how a beautiful, educated American woman — who was also rich in their eyes — would deprive herself of food to the point of starvation I was working on the connection between body image and "self-esteem" when they stopped me. No need more Last week, they learned all about it on "Oprah"

— *Paula Routly*

I don't know how my parents, grandparents aunts and uncles all managed this but they made it seem that the world stood still for the holidays. No matter what happened in the world or in our family we paraded through an unalterable number of visits and activities for two days. Christmas Eve buffet and carols at Aunt Dotty's; midnight service at church; early morning gift orgy at home; citrus and sticky buns for breakfast a quick visit to Grandmother Reed for more gifts; and then the long, snowy — in those days it was *always* snowy — drive to Mimey and Grampa farm.

This last stop was the real deal Here's where the six of us would settle in and spend the fat part of the day. The enormous Federal-style house would be filled with vases and vases of deep red long-stem roses — later I learned a rose grower lived down the street with whom my uncle had brokered some deal There were tables set everywhere, a few in the dining room more in the foyer and usually one or two in the Siberian-like and otherwise unused parlor The sideboard groaned with a regal prime rib roast *and* a turkey *and* a ham.

As each family arrived — there were lots of us back then — two or more dishes were

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Seven Days of Christmas

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added to the spread. There were creamed onions, creamed corn, green beans almondine, Yorkshire pudding, chestnut stuffing, celery stuffing, mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, at least three kinds of Aunt Jane's pickles, rolls and a wilting iceberg lettuce salad.

Afterwards there were pies and chocolates, a piñata for the kids, and then we'd all change into our "country" clothes and pile out into the snow for snowmobile rides, walks and general roughhousing. Finally we'd squeeze back into the station wagon and make our way home in the early winter darkness, satisfied and secure for yet another year.

— Molly Stevens

There has to be a relief from holiday gluttony. For my family, as soon as the food is finished, a powerful force seems to well up from the swollen bellies. Call it guilt, or a genuine urge for proper maintenance, the lull of holiday digestion is soon broken by a broad based push to exercise.

Exercise was once enjoyable to me. During high school, I had a fairly successful skiing career that provided me with a fair level of fame. In my final year, though, I traded in athleticism for rock 'n' roll, turning my back on skiing. In 1997 I was fully immersed in my first year of college, and the family had not yet caught on to the fickle changes to my lifestyle. They decided to spend the afternoon skiing, thinking it would please me.

With the family positively beaming and me cowering, we packed the cars and headed for the snow. Although repulsed by the idea of this very un-rock activity, I suited up, strapped on my skis and ventured into the cold. Suddenly I was filled with utter joy and a sense of empowerment. "I've still got it!" I yelled across the slippery expanse as I imagined my family members as fans. I felt like I could conquer the world. *I deserve to be famous!*

I rounded a corner and kicked hard, gaining speed. "Look at him go," I heard them call. "How graceful."

I hit a large drift, jumping into the air. Twisting at the waist, I flew in an arc above the glimmering snow. As I soared, I realized that I missed this attention, and grieved for the excitement of my prior life.

Christmas stopped being magic and enchanted for me the day I found out that Agnes Moorhead wasn't really Endora. — Peter Kurth

A patch of thick ice greeted my return to the ground. Pitching forward, I felt my pole snap as I collapsed on the trail, badly breaking my hand. As cheers turned to laughter, I walked off the hill, dejected.

I spent that Christmas with a hand swollen like a planet — and a seriously damaged ego. As the holidays passed, so did my illusions of fame. Now, post-meal calls for exercise just cause groans, and gluttony sometimes doesn't seem so bad.

— Ethan Covey

For two years while I was in grade school, my dad ran a college exchange program in Innsbruck, Austria. We got to live in this really quaint Alpine village on the university's dime. It was one of those perfect movie villages: *Sound of Music* chalets, balconies overflowing with flowers against a snow-covered mountain backdrop, guys in *lederhosen* and narrow-waisted, large-breasted St. Pauli-type girls falling right out of these low-cut peasant dresses.

Back then, Innsbruck still didn't have a McDonald's, let alone a place to get stuff for American-style celebrations. So for our first Christmas there, Mom made it a personal mission to find something suitably American for Christmas dinner. And she did, a somewhat scraggly, extremely expensive frozen turkey at one of the local supermarkets, imported from, of all places, Virginia.

But Europeans — at least the Austrians — don't have the giant refrigerators that we Americans do. They're more the size of hotel minibar fridges. Mom couldn't cram the bird into ours, but she thought it would be okay if she left it outside the pantry window as long as it was securely wedged behind the iron security grate. Mom was wrong. Because all quaint Austrian villages — much like all quaint Vermont villages — are just lousy with resourceful barn cats. At some point during the night, feral cats somehow insinuated themselves between the bars and attacked our turkey.

Here's where we get to the part that is either disgusting or funny or both, depending on your point of view. Mom, having spent a good deal of time and money looking for that damn turkey — she's famous for this kind of thing in our family — decided it would be safe to eat if she prepared it carefully enough. So she sawed off all the chunks that had been munched on by the cats, washed the turkey in hot water, tied what was left together, and took a picture of the whole thing. Then she fed it to us. She claimed to me the other day that she couldn't find the picture, but I'm pretty sure she destroyed it.

— Chris McDonald

All the Christmases of my childhood were uniformly gorgeous and enchanted. I was born gullible and stayed that way. So when I was 7 years old, in 1960, and my Aunt Sissy sent me a pair of red mittens for Christmas — mittens? *mittens!?* — I had to conclude, after first looking crushed, that they were the best damn mittens anyone ever got. I took them to bed with me, that's how good they were!

It was either that or admit that Christmas itself might be a fraud and a disappointment, and I wasn't prepared for news that bad. Really. They could get you up on charges *now* for telling the truth about Christmas to a kid like me — permanently warping, post-traumatically stressing forever — a helpless, just-out-of-knee-pants GLBTQIA, who still believed in Santa Claus, miracles and the Virgin Mary, and who, like Mae West, wanted nothing more out of life than "happiness, with a gardener and a swimming pool." If you catch my drift.

No? Then let me be perfectly clear: Christmas stopped being magic and enchanted for me the day I found out that Agnes Moorhead wasn't really Endora. And don't think I didn't believe that one, too, for a while. I even sent her a letter in California, saying, "Get me out of here!" Nothing came of it, as you can see.

Nowadays, of course, if you're a little bit "that way," you can get married and have Christmas like anyone else. In the spirit of the season, I give you Miss West: "Love is what you make it and who you make it with."

— Peter Kurth

Handel's *Messiah* is the big Christmas concert at every high school, and one of the schools I attended had a great music program, so we were going to perform all three sections of it. It was a suit-and-tie show for the boys; the girls wore long dresses and the choir wore robes. There were about 80 people on stage, including the concert band combined with orchestra, the high school chorus and members of a community chorale group. It was going to be a very impressive sound. I was first-chair string bass.

The head of the music program was Mr. Bowen. Chorus and musicians had never rehearsed together, but Mr. Bowen was going to conduct from the podium and cue Miss Jans, the director of the chorus. She would simultaneously conduct the singers, including the vocal soloists.

Lights were lowered. Mr. Bowen walked to the podium amidst sincere applause and made a few perfunctory remarks. Then he turned to the orchestra, lifted his baton and, within an instant, lost all color. He dropped his baton and staggered off stage. Stunned stares quickly became murmurs. Miss Jans hastily followed Mr. Bowen off stage to see what had had happened. The rest of us had no idea what to do. We later learned that Mr. Bowen had suffered a mild heart attack.

As bewilderment spread, a 12th-grade tenor named Steve Wallenberg eased his way down from the back row of the choir and headed for the podium. This caught everyone's attention, and the auditorium immediately hushed. Wallenberg was completely calm. He lifted the baton and commanded absolute attention with his rigid posture. There was total silence for about five seconds.

When he pounced on the downbeat, we sounded like the Chicago Symphony Orchestra with Sir George Solti conducting. Miss Jans hurried back on stage but the train had already left the station, so she graciously directed her choir — minus one tenor — as if nothing had happened. I have never heard a more moving and powerful rendition of the *Messiah*, and it was because of our own deliverer a talented and fearless 12th-grader.

— *Marc Awodey*

Every Christmas, my father hustled about the kitchen, pouring heated spirits over a brown mound of dessert. He set it alight and conveyed it on a silver platter into the dining room with great ceremony. It arrived in swirling blue and purple flames.

I enjoyed the visual drama; I hated the taste. Plum pudding — or Christmas pudding, as they call it across the pond — is a heavy, rich doorstop of a dessert. It has a Dickensian aura: a labor- and calorie-intensive vestige of an age when a protuberant belly was the embodiment of prosperity.

Our puddings were supplied by my grandmother as long as she was able; then by my parents, who produced the things in bulk, providing puddings for the Woods, the Lockes and the Alfonsos.

I was in my twenties when I first learned of our pudding's provenance. My great-great grandmother, who lived in 19th-century New York, had a cook called Bridget. Bridget previously worked in the kitchens of the Lord Mayor of London, and the recipe came from there.

My father and all the cousins helped make the plum pudding at his grandmother's house when he was a boy. They chopped and candied the fruits by hand. The pudding steamed for hours a month in advance, so it could age and soak up the brandy. On Christmas day the pudding had to be re-steamed on the laundry stove, because the kitchen stove was full of other pots and pans.

I grew to like plum pudding over the years. Now I serve it for Christmas dinner. But my store-bought kind just isn't the same, lacking the musky flavor of the fruits and cake infused with brandy. Some year, I'm resolved to make it myself.

— *Melanie Menagh*

I spent December 1974 in northern New Jersey living at home with my parents and paying off my undergraduate student loans. On nights when I wasn't pitching mail — working for the post office at Christmas time meant lots of overtime — I played lots of banjo, and worked as a freelancer at a little music store on North Avenue in Garwood. Each week I gave lessons to a couple of guitar and mandolin students, and to a few more on five-string and tenor banjos. Simone and Joey, who ran the store, called me Banjo Bob.

It was getting close to Christmas, and I was in the shop teaching on a Wednesday night. The music store was narrow and long, with a display case running down one side of the room. The rest of the space was cluttered with guitars, drum sets and a few amps, all festooned with tinsel, ribbons and Christmas tree dingle balls. The back room was all cardboard boxes and old coffee cups.

Next to the bathroom on the floor, I noticed a big box full of booze. I could see that the bottles were all different flavors and types of alcohol, and when Simone gave me a big bottle of Southern Comfort, it caught me by surprise. I thanked him in a daze. Even though I was 21, it was the first bottle of hard liquor that was ever really mine. It made me feel so rich, and when I went home and poured myself a straight one, it made me feel nice and warm, too. Wicked good.

I have never forgotten that warm, rich feeling. For about the last 20 years I have tried to pass it on by purchasing different flavors of brandy and schnapps at this time of year for everyone at work, wherever I happened to be employed. As time goes by, I have been gradually been replacing the alcohol with chocolate, as my coworkers are drinking less. But they can still thank Simone, who was thoughtful enough to show a young part-timer that he cared.

— *Robert Resnik*

I was pretty young on that fateful day at school when one boy I knew blew the whistle on the whole Santa Claus thing. He told all the kids that Santa was — gasp! — really our parents. As you can imagine, I took the news pretty hard. And for good reason: I was afraid that if I wavered in my faith and I was wrong, Santa or one of the elves would catch wind of it up at the North Pole and I'd be done for. Still, doubts began to gnaw at my little brain until I was a total wreck.

My parents had always been pretty sneaky, with all sorts of ways to keep my faith alive. I mean, even Mom and Dad got gifts from Santa, and the cookies we left out always got eaten — I saw the crumbs! — and the carrots we left for the reindeer would get chomped. Furthermore, the gifts from Santa, and sometimes even Mrs. Claus, came in completely different wrapping paper than the stuff our parents gave us.

I rationalized that maybe Santa brought just a *few* gifts to each family, and these were supplemented by parental presents. But I was still worried. What if I grew up and had kids of my own and, still believing in Santa, didn't buy them any presents and I turned out to be wrong? Finally, choking back sobs, I begged my mom for the truth. I *really needed to know*. How was I ever going to be a good parent if I didn't know for sure how Christmas gift delivery worked? My mom hugged me and we both cried, and she gave me the real story.

Since that day, I've never doubted again. Santa rules, and I don't care what you say, because my mom told me the truth about Santa Claus.

— *Colin Clary*

You hear that the first holiday season after losing a parent is unimaginably hard, but it's even worse than that. When my father died in the summer of 1990, we were barely coming out of the grief when Christmas arrived. As four siblings had produced nine grandchildren, I had little hope for a visit from my mother during holidays. But, after 30 years of grandchildren-laden holiday travel, she accepted our invitation. "I've always been jealous of your Christmases in Montréal," she told me from the family house in Montana.

For seven years, our family here in Vermont — my husband, stepdaughter and myself — had opened presents and then made the 90-minute drive to spend Christmas day in Montréal. Chinatown provided plenty of restaurant options, and the Botanical Gardens greenhouses were specially decorated for the season. Christmas in Montréal became our own tradition.

I didn't anticipate how much taking Mom along would deepen the meaning. She was descended from Quebecois farmers on her mother's side, something that wasn't talked about much when we were growing up. We didn't celebrate her ancestry or hear stories; no one spoke French. Her father and my father came from strong German stock, and made their own superiority pretty clear to anyone with "questionable" blood.

But when Mom went to Montréal with us, the stories poured out of her. How they called her grandmother 'Mémère,' and how her mother and aunts would speak French when they wanted to hide conversations from everyone else. In a neighborhood grocery store she recognized the traditional Quebecois meat pie, and saw that it was called *tourtière*. We'd always had that meat pie after midnight mass in Montana, but just called it "the Christmas pie." Mom never told us its history, or that her mother had another name for it. "I thought she called it 'toot-care,'" she said. "My grandmother must have brought the recipe from Quebec."

We went to midnight Mass on Christmas Eve that year at the great cathedral, Mary Queen of

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I have never ending gratitude for a community that has allowed me to operate, profit and enjoy a business while having the pleasure of meeting and working with so many incredible people.

I'd like to thank all of my wonderful customers and clients. I have great memories of you all, your festivals, restaurants, groups, concerts, museums, attractions, and stores.

My greatest and most heartfelt thanks goes to all the staff listed below, who have worked with me over the years. I could never have done it without you! Your dedication, long hours, wrecked cars, worn out boots, and endless energy will always be remembered.

Stefanie Shreiner, Claudia Bruce, Catie Camp, Elizabeth Rice, Liz Rosenweig, Kathy Gaiser, Judy Fitz, Susan Corkran, Christine Landon, Karl Haman, Debra Brown, Jane Donlan, Deborah Austin, Jayne Harrington, Tam Gamache, Amy Judd, Bill French, Gretchen Feeser, Paula Routly, Terry Radich, Oak Lagaldo, Don Calistra, Michael Sheridan, Tom Ragland, Lorraine Shappy, Chris Ladieu, Kyle Anderson, Edward Sontheimer, Harry Chalkin, BJ Jerome, Tom Witherall, Denise Bergman, Frank Dawson, Kathy Davis, Chris Urich, Stacy Grenon, Jerry Newton, Pam Tudhope and Eric Belrose

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Seven Days of Christmas

continued from page 21a

the World. And my mother named Mary, was transported. Blissfully — there's no other word for it — she listened to the familiar carols, incantations and blessings, but in the Quebecois French she had always secretly dreamed of. She already had bought her airline ticket for our fifth Christmas in Montréal when she passed away in 1994.

— *Jeanne Keller*

Mom sawed off all the chunks that had been munched on by the cats, washed the turkey in hot water, tied what was left together and took a picture of the whole thing. — Chris McDonald

Call me a malcontent, but my favorite Christmas is the one I can't remember. No eggnog involved. No gifts, either. And no ham, although Spam

was popular in that place and time — the Philippines 1965.

I was feeling trapped and feverish — something akin to malaria. I wanted a way out like everyone else in Southeast Asia. But I couldn't budge due to a state of unresponsiveness. Instead of being a passive resister to the war I was inactively surrendering to the world.

Mother went to the hospital where father was a doctor, even though the place was exploding with the non-walking wounded from Vietnam. Dr. Father didn't have time to deal with us because of the gangrenous soldiers shipped and flown over after the Ia Trang Valley campaign a month earlier. Mother had recently passed a six-foot tapeworm and was in no mood for my fetal position or my father's disposition. She whispered "the horror," many years before the shadowy Marlon Brando in *Apocalypse Now*. My father responded, "Buck up. At least you have arms and legs."

Day turned into night without evidence. My womb didn't have a view, so it wouldn't have mattered if the sun had torpedoed into Subic Bay just like the bombs dropping on Laos. Few in the West had a bird's-eye view of what was going on either. It was just a matter of sunrise, sunset.

There were conflicting reports about how many Silent Nights passed before there was a new bundle of Joy to the World. My father says it was only one: December 26. My mother says it was two: December 27. The Filipino authorities must have thought it seemed like months, recording the date as January 27, 1966.

But they all agreed. Hallelujah, a child is born.

— *Nancy Stearns Bercaw*

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perfect union?

In Montpelier and Cincinnati, Judith Sturnick puts Vermont College back on course

BY SUSAN GREEN

Dressed in bright reds suited for a seasonal greeting card, **JUDITH STURNICK** acknowledges she can count at least two blessings as Christmas approaches: The 62-year-old educator recently assumed the presidency of Vermont College, after negotiating a deal to put it under the umbrella of the nationwide Union Institute. And, late last week, she tied the knot with partner Barbara Walvoord in a Montpelier civil-union ceremony.

These are glad tidings for the svelte, ebullient Sturnick, whose destiny may have been foreseen at an early age because of another holiday. "I was born on Easter Sunday," she explains, with a thousand-watt smile. "My grandmother thought that was a portent of great things to come." >>

That paternal grandmother, who raised Sturnick in Minnesota for the first 12 years of her life, represents the Swedish roots. The other side of her family is German, Irish, Spanish, Bohemian and Dutch. "My mother's people were interesting," she observes.

Those ethnic threads, and a Midwestern childhood that continued in North Dakota with her parents, contributed to a certain self-assurance. At age 2, Sturnick decided she wanted to teach. "I was already talking about becoming a doctor," she says. "My grandmother thought I meant a medical doctor. I knew then what I wanted was a Ph.D."

Academia was always the goal and is today the shining accomplishment of the newly appointed president of the Cincinnati-based Union Institute — which has prided itself on being a nontraditional "university without walls" since the 1960s. In February Sturnick convinced the trustees that it was time to find a campus.

By acquiring Vermont College from Norwich University this fall, she altered the Green Mountain State's educational map. In doing so, Sturnick may have righted what some skeptics saw as an odd coupling of the nation's oldest military academy with a decidedly liberal school. The new Norwich-free configuration is called The Union Institute and University, with Vermont College listed as a subhead.

These sweeping changes make perfect sense to Sturnick on a practical as well as symbolic level. But the labyrinthine legacy of schools and educational philosophies almost defies comprehension without a diagram. In a nutshell:

The Union Institute, offering undergraduate and doctoral degrees, is geared to adults in mid-career who spend two weeks each year at one of four "learning centers" in Ohio, California and Florida. It was launched in 1964 when representatives from 10 schools around the country — including Sarah Lawrence, Antioch, Bard and Hofstra — agreed to form a consortium while meeting at Goddard College in Plainfield. The consortium dissolved in 1982 and the Institute became "freestanding."

The year before, financially pressed Goddard had sold its "low-residency" adult degree programs, similar to those of the Institute, to Norwich University — which had "merged" with a then-bankrupt and straight-laced Vermont College in 1972.

Goddard and the Institute are both inspired by the philosophy of John Dewey, a Burlington native and late 19th-century University of Vermont graduate who promoted a democratic alternative to more traditional pedagogic methods. This experimental model encourages flexibility, low faculty-to-learner ratios, social responsibility and students taking charge of their academic progress.

Professor Dick Hathaway, who started as a Goddard instructor in 1965, has been teaching history and politics at Vermont College for 19 years. He remembers the initial confusion when the bohemian Plainfield contingent invaded the more inhibited Montpelier school.

"Here was a radical alternative series of programs on a conventional campus," he recalls. "Goddard turned these formal settings with a single authority at the head of the classroom into democratic, decentralized spaces. We wanted indirect rather than overhead lighting. For a time in the early '80s, there was even a scattering of Buddhist pillows on the floor."

This scenario seems surreal in light of the fact that Norwich was the parent organization. Vermont College was where Goddard's adult-degree learners visited twice a year for about ten days at a time. It also housed traditional resident students. The "conventionals," as Hathaway calls them, were bussed to Norwich for their classes. "It cost $100,000 a year just for that bus," he recalls. "Both schools were in economic stress. When they took over VC in '72, someone described it as 'the Titanic rescuing the Lusitania.'"

The arrangement apparently didn't work well for other reasons. "Norwich never quite knew what to do with a two-campus system. Vermont College was doing OK by now, but I think the numbers didn't justify their investment. Probably, the biggest thing was the honor [illegible] citizen-soldier sense of mission. It was a clash of cultures," Hathaway suggests, adding that he's always been amused by the motto inscribed over a Norwich entranceway: "Obedience for the law is liberty."

> "This is a small state. We can make an impact here and make it fast. I immediately felt as if this is what we were meant to do."
> — Union Institute President Judith Sturnick

Sturnick thinks of the mismatch in plain horse-sense terms. "You can't put a duck and a dog together and expect them to breed," she says.

Nonetheless, Hathaway believes the faculty and adult-degree students were happy when Norwich moved the resident "conventionals" to its Northfield campus in 1994, leaving the low-residency "alternatives" in Montpelier. "That gave us coherence," he says. "It gave us a place to grow and breathe. We loved it. Imagine: We had an immense freedom to experiment at Norwich, of all places. It was a blossoming."

So, the latest switch — Norwich euphemistically "releasing stewardship" of Vermont College — has been a little disorienting. "I didn't mind the way it was at all," Hathaway points out. "After 20 years, I had become a Norwich loyalist."

However, he now feels that the fusion of former Goddard programs at Vermont College with the Union Institute is "reuniting the DNA of the Lost Tribes. When we met our faculty colleagues from the Institute in August, we didn't have to explain everything. All the energy for 20 years that's gone into explaining what we're about to Norwich!"

The purchase price is a secret, but Hathaway suspects between $12 and $16 million has changed hands. The Union Institute is now the proud owner of 21 buildings — a mix of sturdy Ivy League-like brick structures, graceful Victorians and renovated Civil War-era bungalows — on a hilly 63 acres in Vermont's capital city.

One profound benefit for both Vermont College and The Union Institute is cross-pollination. "They needed a doctoral program. We needed a masters degree program. We are sisters in every possible way," says Sturnick. "Our university without walls needed to be grounded in one place. Our undergraduate students like the idea that they can go right straight through to a doctoral degree." The Montpelier campus will continue to serve as a twice-yearly gathering place for low-residency, long-distance learners who work from home the rest of the time.

The changes for Vermont College's 180 full-time or adjunct faculty and staff are significant. For one thing, there'll be no more tenure — including for those who already have it. "We worked it out informally in meetings," Sturnick says. "Tenured people, some of whom have had it for 20 or 30 years, will get five-year contracts. Tenure-track people get three-year contracts."

The Union Institute's belt-tightening has required closing a Washington office that was dedicated to lobbying Congress. The Los Angeles learning center might also go. The future of the Cincinnati headquarters has yet to be determined. "We're in the middle of analyzing lots of things," explains Sturnick, who will spend two weeks each month in Ohio "for a long time to come."

The Vermont campus, with 1100 low-residency students, "gives us a depth and energy we couldn't quite achieve in Ohio," she notes. "This is a small state. We can make an impact here and make it fast. I immediately felt as if this is what we were meant to do. The trustees told me, 'We don't invest in real estate.' But it was clear to me from the get-go that you buy the whole show."

When Sturnick accepted the Union Institute job in June 2000, she came prepared to stir things up. "They wanted an entrepreneurial president who can see possibilities we can't. I thought that indicated I should look for something innovative. I knew it was destiny the minute I stepped foot into this building," she says, gesturing at her office with two immense diagonal ground-to-ceiling beams on the fourth floor of stately College Hall. "I believe we're very much guided if we stay in tune with our higher selves."

This transcendental perspective comes from a well-grounded woman with a 16-page curriculum vitae.

After graduating *magna cum laude* in 1961 from the University of North Dakota, where she majored in English and history, Sturnick's graduate school years were spent at Ohio's Miami University. Her thesis on poet Emily Dickinson paled in comparison with the raw research she then did at Harvard, Yale and other libraries for a doctoral dissertation at Ohio State University in Columbus. The subject: George Meredith, a British wordsmith in the Victorian era.

"He had a stroke but later came back to resume working on his final book," she says. "When the original manuscript was put before me, I couldn't even breathe. There was his handwriting... I could date fragments based on how the handwriting changed after his stroke. I reconstructed what he'd intended to do. My dissertation is still the landmark study for Meredith's last novel. It was one of the most exciting periods of my life."

By that time, Sturnick had ended her seven-year marriage to a man she wed while a college sophomore. She gave up an opportunity to publish her dissertation as a book in order to teach at a small Ohio liberal arts school, Capital University, where she was chosen Outstanding Professor of the Year and named chair of the English department in 1970.

That university's president convinced Sturnick to pursue a similar career path. "He loved the idea of turning me on to leadership," she recalls. "He told me there is this great work to be done in higher education. He thought I was a visionary."

In 1978, Sturnick returned to Minnesota to become vice-president for academic affairs at Southwest State University. "We got enrollment up from 1400 to more than 2000 and rebuilt faculty morale," she says of her five-year sojourn at what had been a faltering school.

In 1983, a college presidency came her way at a time when women accounted for only 4.5 percent of all college presidencies in the United States. An organization she helped found, the American Council on Education's Office for Women in Higher Education, had nominated her for the position. "It was basically a white male bastion back then," Sturnick says. "The ACE was committed to changing that."

When she was recruited for a similar post at New Hampshire's Keene State College in 1987, Sturnick became "only the fifth woman in the country to get a second presidency."

"Judith faced an extraordinarily difficult road," explains Jim Fisher, a former president of Towson State College in Maryland and a psychology professor who has been associated with the Union Institute since the early 1970s. "She endured all the trials and travails of professional women, but she's so darn strong."

Yes, but there's been a price to pay for that strength. "I'm such a double-type-A personality," Sturnick acknowledges. Her blue eyes, blazing with conviction, illustrate that assessment. "I burned out in my seventh year at Keene. I was working 70 or 80 hours a week, with no vacations. Then I woke up one morning completely wiped out. I'm a deeply spiritual person who spends a lot of time meditating, but I couldn't even meditate. I decided to resign and take a hiatus. The college wanted me to just take a leave of absence. I felt I needed to do something different with my life."

Sturnick is unflinching when it comes to self-scrutiny. "I'm frank about my burnout and I'm also frank about being a recovering alcoholic," she says. "I've been sober for almost 22 years. You have to be real about just who you are."

She's also been out of the closet for three decades. "It was difficult for me at Keene," she reflects. "The trustees wanted me to be quiet about it."

After six months of resting and soul-searching, Sturnick left New Hampshire for sunny California. There, she opened a consulting business to coach CEOs in Silicon Valley high-tech companies. "I knew how to prevent leaders from burning out," she explains. "We worked on conflict management and resolution, decision-making skills and goal-setting for the home life as well as the workplace."

Sturnick bought "a little house on the water," and traveled all over the world — England, Australia, Egypt — to accommodate her clients. It was bliss until another offer derailed her paradise plan. "The director of the Office of Women in Higher Education was retiring and I was asked to take her place," she says. "I told them, 'I'm making an awful lot of money. You can't match my salary.' They said, 'Higher education needs you.'"

Ending four years on the West Coast, Sturnick relocated to D.C. and soon accepted a promotion to vice-president of the organization. "Life keeps opening up new opportunities, and you don't grow if

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Perfect Union?

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you don't throw yourself into them," she suggests.

That bit of wisdom prevailed just two years later in 2000 when The Union Institute came calling. The group's innovative outlook enticed Sturnick to say yes. "I had actually become tired of remaining in lock-step, without a great deal of creativity, in higher education — particularly at the doctoral level," she says. "I was told: 'This is a model for independent thinkers, for people who want to build their own standards of excellence.'"

Little did anyone realize then that the independent-thinking Sturnick would think her way into a Vermont College presidency, taking the Union Institute along for the ride.

"She goes like a whirlwind," says Professor Jim Fisher, who first met Sturnick 10 years ago at meetings of the American Council of Education's editorial board. "Judith has so many balls in the air at once. She acts as if she's 21, though I know she's at least 35."

The Norwich-Union Institute changeover has happened at record speed, but Sturnick seems thoroughly unflustered by a pace that would leave others in the dust.

Dick Hathaway describes her as "a red-headed dynamo. She's the Mount Everest of education, a mover and shaker with eruptions of novelty."

Not to mention a persuasive deal maker. "She's able to ethically seduce people to her own point of view," Fisher suggests.

In laying a foundation for the Union Institute's entrée into New England, Sturnick really applied herself. "I made 100 calls myself to other college presidents in the region, to former VC faculty members, to bankers, to the Department of Education in D.C.," she recalls. "I met with the Montpelier City Council, with planners, ministers, Lost Nation Theater, the superintendent of schools. I told everyone that this was not a hostile takeover, that we were actually bringing together two halves of the same whole."

Sturnick's flurry of activity does not surprise Fisher. "She's unequivocal and does everything with passion," he says. "So the future of Vermont College has to be extraordinary."

Hathaway welcomes that future. "We've been acquired, but we're still autonomous," he contends. "Now we're brick-and-click. A campus in a sweet little town and sweet little state where we create a lot of cyberspace long-distance learning."

For Sturnick, the horizon is full of promise. "The adult degree program will expand to California as soon as we can merge it with our undergraduate level," she says a bit breathlessly.

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> "When Norwich took over Vermont College in '72, someone described it as 'the Titanic rescuing the Lusitania.'"
>
> — Professor Dick Hathaway

A first step in that direction took place in June, when Sturnick spent five days in Italy at a retreat dedicated to looking for solutions to the world's problems. She was among 15 leaders in various fields — including the granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi — invited by the Dalai Lama to participate in the session.

"I was nominated to be there because of a chapter I wrote on higher education in the 21st century for *Imagine*, a book that came out last January," Sturnick says. "There were people representing the arts, politics, religion. The Dalai Lama kept really pushing the margins. He wanted each of us to go back to our arena to make a difference. We reserved two hours a day for private meditation, which was pure gold for me. I came back recommitted to my own daily spiritual practice and to trying to be a truly different kind of college president."

That she is. Among other unique attributes, Sturnick ranks as one of only three openly gay American college presidents, out in front of "a lot of male and female gay presidents who cloak their lives."

Although uncloseted for almost 32 years, Sturnick is "absolutely thrilled with the idea that there could be a ceremony," she says, twirling the rose-gold band on her ring finger. Her saga, albeit filled with significant accomplishments in education, is also an amazing love story. "Barbara and I have been together as a couple for a year," she says. "But we've been best friends for 38 years. When we realized how we felt, it just swept us both away."

At 60, Walvoord is a director of faculty development at Notre Dame en route to becoming an English professor there. She plans to split her time between Indiana, Cincinnati and the three-bedroom Montpelier condo the Institute bought for Sturnick.

The honeymooning twosome plan to relax for the remainder of December in Vermont. "I needed to give myself a break," Sturnick says with a grin. "There's no place I would rather be doing that." ⑦

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Crèche Course

A Montréal museum makes the nativity scene

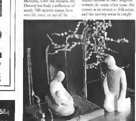
By Jeanne Keller

The crèche, or nativity scene, of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus is one of the most universal and enduring symbols of Christianity and its annual display is a tradition worldwide. One history of the custom says that actors dramatically portraying the scene eventually were replaced with figurines, and lo, a new folk-art form was born. Another story credits St. Francis of Assisi, known for his love of animals, with commissioning the first display of the Mary, Joseph, shepherds and farm animals gathering in a rough stable around the baby in a manger. The *mise-en-scène* at the Assisi monastery provided inspiration for pilgrims, who carried the ritual from Italy throughout Europe and eventually the world.

The astonishing variety of depictions that has evolved can be seen in the annual display of crèches at the Museum of Oratory of St. Joseph in Montréal. Over the decades, the Oratory has built a collection of nearly 700 nativity scenes from virtually every corner of the globe. This year's display contains 300 crèches from 110 countries, and while the theme may be the same, the interpretations couldn't be more different. There are crèches made from cornhusks, carved incense paste, dried sorghum, ebony and ivory. Some are miniatures, some are life-sized. There are paintings, marionettes and — astonishingly — molded chocolates.

It's a challenge to review an exhibit that for some people is so sacred. From a religious point of view, I suppose what matters is the authenticity and devotional value of each display. These crèches pass muster, having been collected by a significant Roman Catholic cathedral church well known for promoting devotion to religious relics.

But I was also struck by other, secular ways to categorize the displays. It's clear that some of the creators are fine artists whose beautiful figurines, in porcelain, bronze or sculpted wood, would have meaning and impact outside of their religious context. In many other cases, the creator is an artisan or folk artist, and the nativity scene is simply



Japan

Mexico

Jesus, Mary and Joseph appearing in, for example, the style of typical Haitian "primitivist" art.

Finally, there are what I'll call the "inspired amateurs," who might create an entire nativity scene from seashells and starfish, or from dried beans and rice. These are evidently purely devotional, rather than artistic, statements.

The scenes themselves also fall into categories. The traditional nativity scene we think of in North America — the humble stable and its inhabitants against a desert backdrop — is rare in this exhibit, and when it appears is typically European or North American in origin. Far more interesting, for me anyway, are the minimalist scenes: intimate groupings of parents with a newborn and nothing in particular giving a religious context to the setting.

In the Nepalese crèche, Jesus is guarded by a wooly mammoth which makes sense because all the figurines are made of wool felt

Some of the most beautiful crèches on display are this latter type, such as the bronze trios from Mali and Burkina Faso and carved ebony figures from Cameroon, Kenya and Malawi. Blending traditional art styles with the message of the Christian missionaries, the faces of the crèche figures from China resemble Beijing opera masks, and the Mary and Joseph from Korea wear traditional wedding garb.

Some scenes barely qualify as crèches but are truly wonderful. Ethnographic in their detailed depiction of daily life, they are as worthy of display in a museum of natural history as in one of sacred relics. From the northern territories of Canada, for example, a half-life-size diorama displays a nativity scene in the midst of an Inuit village. The rosy-cheeked Mary is decked out in a furry hooded parka, and the baby Jesus is wrapped papoose-like in a bearskin robe.

An Alaskan scene includes a walrus instead of ox and ass, and one of the three kings is arriving by dogsled bearing a whole basketful of king crabs. In the Nepalese crèche, Jesus is guarded by a wooly mammoth, which makes sense because all the figurines are made of wool felt. In another display a traditional Provençal *boulanger* delivers a panier of baguettes to the manger. A Rwandan contribution comprises 70 pieces, all sculpted from cedar and covered with a polished black-wax finish. This one is decidedly martial, with a tiny nativity scene off to one side and almost all the other figurines carrying spears and shields. In the same display, a priest kneels by a coffin, corpse included!

The most questionable artistic taste appears in the "ethnographic" category, created by inspired amateurs using materials

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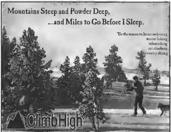

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Korea

Crèche Course

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on hand. One, which we dubbed “GI Joe and Barbie have a baby,” needs no more description. In another we spotted the plastic miniature horses that little girls collected before My Little Pony came along. The worst example is simply titled “A Smurf Christmas.”

The curator for the exhibition, André Bergeron, is a lithographer who creates the posters for this annual event. He selects the crèches to be presented each year, and works with a team of volunteers to fabricate the displays. While traveling in Europe, he collects beautiful crèches for the collection, often through his contacts in art circles.

Donations also come to the Oratory unsolicited, either by individual artists or during formal presentations by huge delegations from countries not wanting to be overlooked. The three-story red-and-silver aluminum crèche from Poland was one such donation commissioned for the Oratory's collection and presented ceremonially by the Polish Consulate. What's a curator to do? ⑦

The crèches are on display every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through February 18 at the Museum of the St. Joseph Oratory, 3800 Queen Mary. Admission to the museum is by voluntary donation, and the staff is bilingual.

> This one is decidedly martial, with a tiny nativity scene off to one side and almost all the other figurines carrying spears and shields. In the same display a priest kneels by a coffin, corpse included.

India

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Inside Track

continued from page 5a

put the hand out for money. You may recall that was something the last Republican candidate for governor refused to do personally. (Incidentally, there were several sightings of **Ruth Dwyer** this week with a Ch. 22 videographer. Oh, boy!)

The absence of a fundraising past, said King Con, means, "I have no promises to keep. I don't have to position what I say based on what I've done politically before."

It's always curious when someone decides to start out in politics by running for one of the top jobs. Gov. Dean, after all, started with a seat in the Vermont House and followed it up with a couple terms as Lite-Gov. Hogan comes into the game without having what he calls "a sense of the political ladder." He just turned 60 and he made it plain — he has no political ambition beyond serving four to six years as Vermont's chief executive.

Many, many Republicans would give an arm and a leg to see Con Hogan run for lieutenant governor. They know a primary battle will cost them. They're envious of the fact that Democrat gubernatorial hopeful **Doug Racine** talked Sen. **Peter Shumlin** into running for Lite-Gov for that very reason.

The way it works in Vermont is that we've got nine months of GOP primary ahead of us, followed by less than two months of a general election campaign. That's nine months for Doug Racine to spend lightly while Douglas and Hogan sort out their differences.

Asked about the possibility of reconsidering and taking a shot at Lite-Gov, King Con made it perfectly clear — he will never stoop to conquer.

"I've been a CEO of something for a long time," replied Mr. Hogan. "My entire career has been running large complex organizations. That's what I do and I think I do it reasonably well. I just can't see myself standing in front of the Vermont Senate making procedural rulings. It isn't me. That's the fundamental answer."

It's simply beneath him.

Over the years, one of the knocks on Slim Jim Douglas has been that he's not a real take-charge kind of guy. That all his years serving in somewhat lesser posts reflects a certain lack of confidence.

Confidence, obviously, is a commodity King Con Hogan has no shortage of.

The primary process, said Hogan, "is supposed to be about putting people in front of Vermonters and letting Vermonters make their choice. I'm looking forward to it."

Jim Douglas isn't.

Correction — Despite two years studying biblical theology in seminary, yours truly managed to screw up an Old Testament reference last week. The Ten Commandments make their appearance in the Book of Exodus. Not Genesis. *Mea culpa.*

Sneaky Dean Update — The governor made it official in a letter to *Seven Days* last week — he refuses to cough up copies of his daily schedule, as we requested last month under Vermont's access-to-public-records law.

David Rocchio, Dean's legal counsel, wrote, "We do object to your request to the extent it encompasses the Governor's private calendar information that would affect the ability of the Department of Public Safety to provide for his safety or for other matters that would otherwise be exempt from disclosure" under Vermont law.

Unfortunately Pinocchio, er, sorry, Rocchio failed to cite even one possible exemption from the public records statute (Title 1 sec. 317-319) to back up his assertion.

Two days later Pinocchio, dunno, Rocchio wrote a similar letter to **Jack Hoffman**, capitol bureau chief for the *Rutland Herald/Times Argus*, denying Jack's similar request for the Guv's daily schedule.

Looks like this sucker's heading for Superior Court.

Interestingly, we put the question to Con Hogan this week. If he becomes governor, we asked, would he release the daily schedule the current governor holds secret?

"Absolutely," replied Hogan without blinking.

Despite the current law, the tradition has been for governors to operate as secretly as the dons of crime families. None, however, has been more secretive than Howard Dean. Outside the Fifth Floor, no one knows who the governor meets with, be they captains of industry or special-interest lobbyists. For example, we cannot remember a Vermont governor ever publicizing a meeting with the head of IBM, Vermont's largest private employer. It's always been strictly a back-room affair.

Hogan, however, promised a refreshing change.

"People need to know that I've met with the head of IBM," said King Con. "IBM needs to know that that will be a public issue. I think that's just the open way to do it."

Open government?

What a concept!

As for who should pay for the out-of-state travel expenses of a governor's state police security detail, Hogan said he would certainly ask any sponsoring organization to pick up the trooper's tab. But if they refuse, said Hogan, the state of Vermont would "with regret" pay the cost.

"A governor's on duty no matter where he or she is," he said.

Many noticed in the front page story in Sunday's *Rutland Herald/Times Argus* that there are quite a number of divergent opinions on that one.

Interesting.

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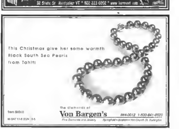

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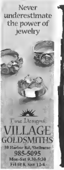

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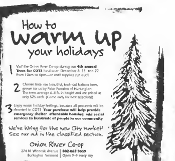

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HOT PEPPERS As winter settles over Vermont, the Jalapeno Brothers ready themselves for a month-long tour of the U.S. and British Virgin Islands. But before rocking the tropics on their "Baked in the Sun" tour, the Jalapenos are warming up here. Get down to Higher Ground this Wednesday to wish the band *bon voyage* and celebrate the release of the new album, *Coral Bay*.

12
WEDNESDAY

DONNY & PERLEY (jazz, Brazilian), Leunig's, 7 p.m. NC
IRISH SESSIONS Radio Bean, 8 p.m. NC
KARAOKE KAPERS (host Rod Rolyonti) 135 Pearl, 9 p.m. NC
JAMES HARVEY QUARTET (jazz) Red Square, 10 p.m. NC
LAST NIGHT'S JOY (Irish) Ri Ra Irish Pub, 7 p.m. NC 9 p.m. $5.
DAN PARKS & THE BLAME (rock) Nectar's, 10 p.m. NC
SOUL KITCHEN WITH JUSTIN B. (acid jazz/house & beyond) Club Metronome, 10 p.m. $2
DIS SPARKS, RHIMI & MI ROLLA (hip-hop/reggae) Rasputin's, 10 p.m. NC/$7 18+
BASHMENT (reggae DJ) Ruben James, 10 p.m. NC
REGGAE NIGHT (Nation Sound, Full Spectrum Sound) Millennium Nightclub-Burlington, 9 p.m. NC/$5 18+ before 11 p.m.
OPEN MIKE W/JIMMY JAMS Manhattan Pizza & Pub, 10 p.m. NC
KARAOKE J.P.'s Pub, 9 p.m. NC
DJ A. DUP (hip-hop/acid jazz/lounge) The Waiting Room, 11 p.m. NC.
LARRY BRETT'S JUKEBOX (DJ) Sh-Na Na's, 8 p.m. NC
JALAPENO BROS., CONTRAPTION (rock, CD release party) Higher Ground, 9 p.m. $7 18+
KARAOKE W/BONNIE SHANE Edgewater Pub, 9 p.m. NC
PANA MONTELTH (from the Ominous Seapods: groove-rock) Monopole, 9 p.m. NC

ERICA WHEELER (singer-songwriter) Good Times Café, 8 p.m. $8 AA
LADIES NIGHT KARAOKE, City Limits, 9 p.m. NC.
OPEN MIKE Mad Mountain Tavern, 9 p.m. NC.

13
THURSDAY

BLUE JEWEL LIGHT (acoustic jazz) Upper Deck Pub at the Windjammer, 6:30 p.m. NC
ELLEN POWELL & MARK VAN GULDER (jazz) Leunig's, 7:30 p.m. NC
MATTHEW PUBY (folk-rock) Radio Bean, 8:30 p.m. NC
MODE 3 (electronic groove) Valencia, 9 p.m. NC
JENNI JOHNSON & BIG JOE BURRELL (jazz, blues) Parima Jazz Club, 7 p.m. NC
DANY JENNE'S DIRTY KITTIES (singer-songwriter) Liquid Energy, 9:30 p.m. NC
EKIS (funky soul) Red Square, 9:30 p.m. NC
VIBE (DJ) Club Metronome, 10 p.m. $2.
JOHNNY DEVIL BAND (rock), Nectar's, 9 p.m. NC
SPEAKEASY (groove) Manhattan Pizza & Pub, 10 p.m. NC
LADIES NIGHT (DJ Joey B., games & prizes) Millennium Nightclub-Burlington, 9 p.m. NC/$5 18+ before 11 p.m.
TOP HAT DJ Rasputin's, 10 p.m. NC
DJ NIGHT (house) Ruben James, 10 p.m. NC
REGGAE NIGHT (DJ), J.P.'s Pub, 9 p.m. NC
THE BILLIONAIRES (Western swing) Waiting Room, 11 p.m. NC
OPEN MIKE W/T-BONE Backstage, 9 p.m. NC
KARAOKE W/MATT & BONNIE SHANE, Edgewater Pub, 9 p.m. NC
KARAOKE W/DAVID HARRISON Sami's Harmony Pub, 8 p.m. NC
IAN THOMAS & ANGELICA BLACKTHORN (singer-songwriters), Kept Writer, 8 p.m. Donations. AA

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WOODEN SPOON (rock), Monopole, 10 p.m. NC
KARAOKE W/FRANNY, Franny O's, 9 p.m. NC
OPEN MIKE, Otter Creek Tavern, 9 p.m. NC
DAN WILLIAMS (singer-songwriter), Downtown Bistro, 6:30 p.m. NC
VORCZA (jazz-funk) Mad Mountain Tavern, 9 p.m. $4

14
FRIDAY

WIZN BAR & GRILL (live radio show) Lincoln Inn Lounge, 4 p.m. NC, followed by **DJ SUPERSOUNDS** (dance party) 9 p.m. NC.
BOB GAGNON TRIO (jazz) Upper Deck Pub at the Windjammer, 6 p.m. NC
ANTHONY'S DANCE W/CHRIS PUREKA & DJ E.V., 135 Pearl, 6 p.m. $6, followed by **DJ LITTLE MARTIN** 10 p.m. $4
THE POPE'S OWN TRIO (Vatican jazz) Radio Bean, 9:30 p.m. NC
SPEAKEASY (groove), Valencia, 10 p.m. NC
B-TOWN SOUND (DJs PJ & Dubmagic) Liquid Energy, 7 p.m. NC
SALAD DAYS (acoustic pop-rock) Sweetwaters, 9 p.m. NC.
MOBIUS BAND (electronic rock) Red Square, 9:30 p.m. NC
DANCETERIA (DJ) Club Metronome, 10 p.m. $2
MR. FRENCH (rock) Nectar's, 9:30 p.m. NC
LION'S DEN HIFI SOUND SYSTEM (reggae; DJs Yosef & Ras Jah I Red) Manhattan Pizza & Pub, 10 p.m. NC
BOOTLESS & UNHORSED (Irish) Rasputin's, 6 p.m. NC, followed by **TOP HAT DJ** 10 p.m. NC/$2.
FUSION (hip-hop/reggae/dance; DJs Pattie J. & Toxic) Millennium Nightclub-Burlington, 9 p.m. $3/10. (18+ before 11 p.m.)
TOP HAT DJ (Top 40) Ruben James, 10 p.m. NC
KARAOKE, J P's Pub, 9 p.m. NC
IAP ALEXY TRIO (jazz) The Waiting Room, 11 p.m. NC.

OPIUS (electric acid-jazz) Vermont Pub & Brewery, 9:30 p.m. NC
LARRY BRETT'S JUKEBOX (DJ) Sh-Na-Na's, 8 p.m. $3
MANSFIELD PROJECT (rock) Henry's Pub, Holiday Inn, 9 p.m. NC
ALIEN LUSH (rock) Trackside Tavern, 9 p.m. $3
KARAOKE W/PETER BOARDMAN, Backstage Pub, 9 p.m. NC.
JOHN CASSEL (jazz piano) Tavern at the Inn at Essex, 7 p.m. NC
THE IMPOSTERS (rock) Edgewater Pub, 9 p.m. NC.
KARAOKE W/BONNIE DRAKE, Kincade's, 9 p.m. NC.
KARAOKE, Sami's Harmony Pub, 9 p.m. NC
DREAMWEAVER (DJ) G Stop, 9 p.m. NC.
JIM BRANCA (acoustic blues) Kept Writer, 7 p.m. Donations. AA
FREEZEBANDCHICKEN (groove-rock) Monopole, 9 p.m. NC.
THE PITMEN (rock), Franny O's, 9 p.m. NC.
TOAST (rock, "toys for kids" benefit) Otter Creek Tavern, 9:30 p.m. NC/new toy donation.
STIR CRAZY (rock; annual Christmas party) City Limits, 9 p.m. NC
GRIPPO FUNK BAND W/DR. JONES, Pickle Barrel, 9 p.m. $8.
SHADRAG (rock), Matterhorn, 9 p.m. $3-5
SETH YACOVONE BAND, THE EDEN PROJECT (blues; benefit for the Alex Kanda Memorial Fund), Rusty Nail, 9 p.m. $8
CURRENTLY NAMELESS (rock) Mad Mountain Tavern, 9 p.m. $4
DAVE KELLER BAND (blues) Mountain Roadhouse, 9 p.m. $4
PICTURE THIS (jazz) J. Morgan's, 7 p.m. NC
STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS (honky-tonk boogie) Charlie O's, 10 p.m. NC
BRYWOOD MARBLE, SMASHED BY CARS (indie-rock) Compost Art Ctr. 9 p.m. $5, AA

15
SATURDAY

NO GUARANTEE, THE BAZOOKAS, SLIDER, WELL UP DEBT, LUCID, REAL HEAVY RIFF, OLD MAN'S FABLE, OPTIC FABLE, OPTIC STUL, JUNIPER GROOVE, KOOPA TROOPAS (indie/punk; benefit of SBHS Coalition for Community Service & Sister City; alcohol free) FlynnSpace, 7 p.m. $5. AA
BIOP'S AVANT-GARDE ANIMATION BAND (film w/live band, punk-jazz) Radio Bean, 8:30 p.m. NC
SLY HILL STRING BAND (new-grass) Valencia, 10 p.m. NC.
HOLIDAY PARTY W/ DRAG KARAOKE, GREGORY DOUGLASS & DJ LITTLE MARTIN (singer-songwriter; holiday party) 135 Pearl, 8 p.m. $8/$5 with Toy for Tots.
BEN & NICK (acoustic originals) Liquid Energy, 9:30 p.m. NC

continued on page 36a

PLAID POWER "How many bands do you know who use bagpipes the way Jimmy Page uses his guitar?" asks Kirk McLeod, founder and lead singer of Celtic-rock group Seven Nations. Hailing from Florida, with members from the U.S. and Canada and a sound blending modern rock riffing with Celtic instrumentation, Seven Nations live up to the naming. After nearly a decade of constant touring and an intense DIY ethic, the group high-steps its way to the Pickle Barrel in Killington this Saturday.

where to go

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Blue Tooth, Access Rd., Warren, 583-2656.
Boonys Grille, Rt. 236, Franklin, 285-[illegible].
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Burlington Coffeehouse at Rhombus, 186 College St., Burlington, 864-[illegible].
Cactus Pete's, 7 Fayette Rd., S. Burlington, 863-1138.
Cambridge Coffeehouse, Boards Gone Restaurant, Jeffersonville, 644-8721.
Capitol Grounds, 45 State St., Montpelier, 223-7800.
Charlie O's, 70 Main St., Montpelier, 223-6820.
Chow! Bella, 28 N. Main St., St. Albans, 524-1405.
City Limits, 14 Greene St. Vergennes, 877-6919.
Club Metronome, 188 Main St., Burlington, 865-4563.
Cobweb, Randolph Rd., Georgia, 527-7000.
Compost Art Center, 30 Main St., Hardwick, 472-9613.
Downtown Bistro, 1 S. Main St., Waterbury, 244-[illegible].
Edgewater Pub, 340 Malletts Bay Ave., Colchester, 865-4214.
Flynn Center/FlynnSpace, 153 Main St., Burlington, 863-5966.
Franny O's 733 Queen City Pk. Rd., Burlington, 863-2909.
G Stop, 38 Main St., St. Albans, 524-7777
Halvorson's, 16 Church St., Burlington, 658-0278.
Heartwood Nature Gallery Stage, 7000 Main Rd., Huntsville, 434-[illegible]/888-212-1142.
Hector's, 1 Lawson Ln., Burl., 862-6900.
Henry's, Holiday Inn, 1068 Williston Rd., S. Burlington, 863-6361
Higher Ground, 1 Main St., Winooski, 654-8888.
J. Morgan's at Capitol Plaza, 100 Main St., Montpelier, [illegible].
JP's Pub, 139 Main St., Burlington, 658-6389.
The Kept Writer, 5 Lake St., St. Albans, 527-6242.
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Leunig's, 115 Church St., Burlington, 863-3759.
Lincoln Inn Lounge, 4 Park St., Essex Jct., 878-3309.
Liquid Lounge, Liquid Energy, 57 Church St., Burlington, 860-7666.
Lorenzo's, 44 Park St., Essex Jct., 879-7777
Mad Mountain Tavern, Rt. 100, Waitsfield, 496-2562.
Mad River Unplugged at Valley Players Theater, Rt. 100, Waitsfield, 496-[illegible].
Manhattan Pizza & Pub, 167 Main St., Burlington, 658-6776
Matterhorn, 4969 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-8198.
Millennium Nightclub-Barre, 236 N. Main St., Barre, 476-3590.
Millennium Nightclub-Burlington, 165 Church St., Burlington, 660-2088.
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Music Box, 147 Creek Rd., Craftsbury Village, 586-7533.
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135 Pearl St., Burlington, 863-2343
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Parima's Jazz Room, 185 Pearl St., Burlington, 864-7917
Radio Bean, 8 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington, 660-9346.
Rasputin's, 163 Church St., Burlington, 864-9324.
Red Square, 136 Church St., Burlington, 859-8909.
Rhombus, 186 College St., Burlington, 862-3144.
Ripton Community Coffee House, Rt. 125, 388-9782.
Ruben James 159 Main St., Burlington, 864-0744.
Rusty Nail, Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-6245
Sami's Harmony Pub, 216 Rt. 7, Milton, 893-7267
Sh-Na-Na's, 101 Main St., Burlington, 865-2596
The Shed, 193 Battery St., Burlington, [illegible].
Sweetwaters, 118 Church St., Burlington, 864-9800.
The Tavern at the Inn at Essex, Essex Jct., 878-1100.
Trackside Tavern, 18 Malletts Bay Ave., Winooski, 655-9542.
242 Main, Burlington, 862-2244.
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Hip-Hop with a Heart

His 6-foot 6 height is not the only thing about Michael Franti that grabs your attention upon first seeing the Spearhead frontman. His mighty locks and bare feet were in near constant motion when the band played Higher Ground for the first time this past summer. The club's owners agreed, saying the show was one of the best they'd ever presented.

"We didn't think anybody would show up," Franti remembers, talking on the phone after an opening gig with Blues Traveler in Lincoln, Nebraska. "Everybody was so into the spirit of the music."

The 36-year-old poet-musician from Oakland, California, evolved through several sonic manifestations before the current three-record stint with Spearhead, which formed in 1994. The Beatnigs and The Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy offered a louder, more industrial sound than Spearhead's organic acid-jazzy soul songs. However, all Franti's bands have had a recurring theme: music with a message.

On both his own label, Boo Boo Wax, and a small worldbeat/dance label called Six Degrees Records, Franti has the freedom to express himself and maximum control of his artistic destiny. A stint with Capitol Records ended quickly after an executive at the mammoth company recommended he pair up with the Fresh Prince, a.k.a. Will Smith. Such a ridiculous notion compelled Franti to follow his heart elsewhere.

[illegible] One might have been a better casting call for the new Muhammad Ali movie than the Jiggy One — the former has both a strong social conscience and a command of the poetic tongue, as the audacious boxer once did. Franti's music and mission addresses issues like the environment, AIDS and censorship, with the goal of relieving suffering. For example, he and Spearhead are currently involved with the national Moratorium on the Death Penalty.

Michael Franti

The band's latest release, *Stay Human*, includes a set of dramatic interludes on the issue of capital punishment and has received highly favorable reviews in the music and daily press nationwide. Indeed, *Stay Human* offers as much musical pulp as moral pulpit, filled with solid songs that make you wanna dance.

Like Bob Marley and other "conscious" artists, Franti lets the feeling and emotion speak for the cause through poetry filled with soul and smart metaphors. The active agent in his words seems to be a compassionate heart, not simply a head full of politics. Franti shows promise to stay the course of positivity beyond a Gap Ad or a VH1 [illegible] in the wake of a terrible tragedy like September 11.

"Just the notion that we shouldn't be bombing other people makes you sound like you're super-radical," claims Franti after hearing so much celebrity press in favor of the current war in Afghanistan. He's been reading the likes of Nelson Mandela, Thich Nhat Hanh and Gandhi lately, looking for inspiration in a troubling time. "Is our real goal to become adrenalized by conflict or to improve the lives of people around us?" he asks.

Playing all over the world, from Japan to the Czech Republic, has afforded Spearhead lots of on-the-job training. The vocals of an accompanying diva and live band offer a sound most contemporary hip-hoppers manage get in a sample. The catchy hooks and organic vibe remind audiences that music is for people and parties, not record deals and pop stars. If you dig the new school of handy hip-hop like Mos Def and Talib Kweli, the roomy vibe of Erykah Badu and D'Angelo, and the "C'mon, party people" sounds of bands like the Brand New Heavies, you might well give Spearhead a shot.

It might be a little chilly for the frontman to [illegible] but things will surely heat up when Franti brings his poetry and dancing feet back to Higher Ground this Saturday.

— *Jeremy Kent*

Rhythm & News will return next week.

Band name of the week: Box of Dirt

continued from page 35a

JULIET MCVICKER WITH [illegible] & JOHN RIVERS (jazz vocals), Sai-Gon Café, 7 p.m. NC.
CRAIG CHALINE & GUESTS (ambient rock), Rhombus Gallery, 8 p.m. $3-5.
THE COMPLAINTS (modern rock), Ri Rá Irish Pub, 10 p.m. $3.
B-TOWN SOUND (house DJs), Nectar's, 9:30 p.m. NC.
RETRONOME (DJ; dance pop), Club Metronome, 9 p.m. $2.
STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS (honky-tonk boogie), Red Square, 10 p.m. NC.
KARAOKE, J.P.'s Pub, 9 p.m. NC.
FLASHBACK ('80s Top Hat DJ), Rasputin's, 10 p.m. NC.
CLUB MIX (hip-hop/house; DJs Irie, Robbie J. & Tone), Millennium Nightclub-Burlington, 9 p.m. $3/10. 18+ before 11 p.m.
TOP HAT DJ (hip-hop, Top 40), Ruben James, 10 p.m. NC.
BIGBUNK, Vermont Pub & Brewery, 9:30 p.m. NC.
DIALOGUE FOR THREE (experimental noise), The Space, 7 p.m. Donations. AA
HOLLYWOOD FRANKIE (DJ; video dance party), Sh-Na-Na's, 8 p.m. $3.
STANZIOLA-MASEFIELD QUARTET (jazz), The Waiting Room, 11 p.m. NC.
MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD, ELEMENTRIX (avant-funk), Higher Ground, 9 p.m. $15/17. 18+
MANSFIELD PROJECT (rock), Henry's Pub, Holiday Inn, 9 p.m. NC.
ALIEN LUSH (rock), Trackside Tavern, 9 p.m. $3.
BAD HORSEY (rock), Backstage Pub, 9 p.m. NC.
ALLEN BOUCHARD (classical & Spanish guitar), Loretta's Italian Restaurant, 6:30 p.m. NC.
HALF CIRCLE (rock), Banana Winds Café & Pub, 9 p.m. NC.
THE IMPOSTERS (rock), Edgewater Pub, 9 p.m. NC.
DJ NIGHT, G Stop, 9 p.m. NC. 18+
POSSE (country), Cobbweb, 8:30 p.m. NC.
AUGUSTA BROWN (rock), Monopole, 9 p.m. NC.
KARAOKE W/FRANK, Franny O's, 9 p.m. NC.
KARAOKE W/DOE RIVERS, Otter Creek Tavern, 9:30 p.m. NC.
DJ DANCE PARTY (Top Hat; Top 40/hip-hop/r&b), City Limits, 9 p.m. NC.
SEVEN NATIONS (Celtic rock), Pickle Barrel, 9 p.m. $6.
MOY (groove-rock), Matterhorn, 9 p.m. $3-5.
THE VERDICT (reggae), Rusty Nail, 9 p.m. $5.
FUNKY MIRACLE, TREE FUNK, Mad Mountain Tavern, 9 p.m. $4.
ABBY JENNE (singer-songwriter), Blue Tooth, 9:30 p.m.
LEON TUBBS (funky jazz), Charlie O's, 10 p.m. NC.
ANTHONY SANTOR & MICHAEL ARNOWITT (jazz), Capitol Grounds, 7:30 p.m. NC. AA
VORCZA (jazz-funk), Compost Art Ctr., 9 p.m. $5. AA

16
SUNDAY

JULIET MCVICKER (jazz vocals), Sweetwaters, 11:30 a.m. NC.
IAN ALEXY & CO. (acoustic stew), Radio Bean, 8:30 p.m. NC.
LAST NIGHT'S JOY (Irish), Ri Rá Irish Pub, 7 p.m. NC.
LION'S DEN (reggae DJ), Nectar's, 9 p.m. NC.
SUNDAY NIGHT MASS (DJs), Club Metronome, 9 p.m. $2.
HIP-HOP DJ, Rasputin's, 10 p.m. NC/$7. 18+
LAR DUGGAN (jazz piano), The Waiting Room, 7 p.m. NC.
KARAOKE W/MATT & BONNIE DRAKE, Edgewater Pub, 9 p.m. NC.
JIMMY T. & THE COBRAS (rock), Franny O's, 9 p.m. NC.

17
MONDAY

OPEN MIKE, Radio Bean, 9 p.m. NC.
QUEEN CITY ROCK W/IRIS ELLIOTT & BRIAN, 135 Pearl, 10 p.m. NC.
CURRENTLY NAMELESS (groove rock), Valencia, 9 p.m. NC.
DRIPPO FUNK BAND, Red Square, 10 p.m. NC.
MONDAY NIGHT GALLERY, Nectar's, 9 p.m. NC.
JERRY LAVENE (jazz guitar), Chow! Bella, 6:30 p.m. NC.

18
TUESDAY

PAUL ASBELL & CLYDE STATS (jazz), Leunig's, 7 p.m. NC.
PUB QUIZ (trivia game w/prizes), Ri Rá, 8:30 p.m. NC.
ANOTHER FLICK ON THE WALL ([illegible]), Radio Bean, 9 p.m. NC.
BUFFY VISION (TV), Liquid Energy, 7 p.m. NC.
OPEN MIKE, Burlington Coffeehouse, 8 p.m. Donations.
LINK UP (reggae; Flex DJs), Red Square, 10 p.m. NC.
THE POLKA DOTS (cowgirl lounge), Red Square, 7 p.m. NC.
BEATS & PIECES (DJ A-Dog), Club Metronome, 10 p.m. $2.
DAIRY-FREE ('80s pop DJ), Nectar's, 9 p.m. NC.
TOP HAT DJ, Rasputin's, 10 p.m. NC/$4. 18+
EXORCISE (rock), J.P.'s Pub, 9:30 p.m. NC.
URBAN (DJ Aqua; house/techno), Millennium Nightclub-Burlington, 9 p.m. $2/10. 18+ before 11 p.m.
THE HUNGRY GHOSTS (jazz), Waiting Room, 11 p.m. NC.
KARAOKE, Cactus Pete's, 9 p.m. NC.

continued on page 38a

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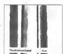
THE MOBIUS BAND, *TWO* (self released, CD) — Following the electronica blitz of the late '90s, many musicians began to look for ways to incorporate the technological innovation and sonic possibilities of electronics with the warmth and familiarity of traditional rock instrumentation. Post rock was born from the merging of many disparate styles, and has since become a genre characterized by unparalleled experimentation and diversity.



Hailing from Amherst, Massachusetts, The Mobius Band are Ben Sterling (guitar, sampler, keyboard, voice), Peter Sax (bass, keyboard, voice) and Noam Schatz (drummer, electronic drums). Their sound is based around the typical rock guitar-bass-drums line-up, yet is filled with electronic rhythms. On *Two*, Mobius drone their way through five tracks in just under half an hour. Though a brief outing, the collection touches on pop songcraft, spastic drum & bass, improvised jazz and experimental electronica.

The opener, "Tassels," grows upon an ominous guitar riff and jazz band melody before splintering into a deep funk groove with wailing-siren organ and vintage synth moans. "2 Kinds of Light" is one of the album's highlights. Percussion like grating metal and an ominous, circling guitar loop give way to laser-gun zings and sampled voices. The dirty electro-funk grind builds around a crystalline keyboard chime as the track progresses, then dissolves into an ambient hush, only to grow again amidst a hail of drums.

"Epitaph" is reminiscent of *Rock Action*-era Mogwai, with distorted drum fuzz, whining synthesized strings and a mumbled, monotone vocal. Closing the album is the aching, emotive "Threnosong." Relying less on electronics, this tune builds on a repetitive guitar line and pulsing bass. Similar in style to the Montréal-based post rock ensemble godspeed you black emperor!, the track rises on a wave of guitar, bleating and ringing as it screams toward a cathartic release.

The Mobius Band succeed when they focus on the powerful interplay of the live and electronic instruments. The occasionally dull lyrics and unimpressive melodies slightly detract from the intensely intricate sound of the instrumentation. But listeners should not be swayed by the few forays into more pop-based songwriting. *Two* is a cool recording and a great example of the vast possibilities of electronics in rock. If The Mobius Band continue to create music as fresh and powerful as that on *Two*, they could easily become one of the most important progressive rock units around. Check them out live this Friday at Red Square.

— *Ethan Covey*

VERMONT JAZZ ENSEMBLE, *25 YEARS IN THE MOONLIGHT* (Sonic Mirage, CD) — The Vermont Jazz Ensemble celebrate their silver anniversary with a new release aptly titled *25 Years in the Moonlight*. The 17 moonlighting musicians that play on the 12 Big Band selections here have shown their devotion to music education over the years, playing countless jazz clinics and workshops, and their anniversary disc continues that tradition. All proceeds from *25 Years in the Moonlight* will go towards funding youth scholarships for the Vermont All State Music Festival.

The CD would be worth a listen even if it wasn't benefiting a good cause. The delightful mix of ballads and swinging tunes is not going to surprise or challenge the ear, but in this case that's a good thing — and in keeping with VJE's dedication to make jazz accessible to audiences around the state and beyond. It's refreshing to hear the enthusiasm of a band with such impressive credentials and mastery of their art.

The first song is a Jeff Tyzik number called "Downtown Shuffle." It swings with such energy that you can't listen to it sitting down. The beautiful exchange between David Ellis on trumpet and George Voland on trombone is some of the most inspired music on the disc.

A Big Band collection is incomplete without a song by the great Duke Ellington, and VJE oblige with the elegiac "Concerto for Cootie." On this classic, Glendon Ingalls plays the lead trumpet with a cascading range of emotions.

Listening to music from this era makes me nostalgic for an America I never knew: before the Great Depression and the threat of nuclear war and terrorist attacks. This sentiment is especially strong on Mercer Ellington's "Things Ain't What They Used to Be" and Billy Strayhorn's "Chelsea Bridge." These bittersweet tunes wistfully describe a time that seems more than a century away.

Those with little introduction to jazz will find *25 Years in the Moonlight* a good place to start, and fans of the Big Band era will not be disappointed. Pick it up to enjoy some of Vermont's best jazz, while helping to ensure that a great American tradition continues.

— *Jason King*

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sOUnd AdviCe

TAKE THE "J" TRAIN Jerri Johnson's sultry vocals and commanding stage presence make her concerts unforgettable. This Thursday at Parima's Jazz Club the "Black Pearls" diva will transport listeners to a musical past. Fellow Burlington legend Big Joe Burrell joins in.

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WEDNESDAY

IRISH SESSIONS Radio Bean 8 p.m. NC

KARAOKE KAPERS (host Bob Bolyard) 135 Pearl 9 p.m. NC

JULIET MCVICKER W/TOM CLEARY & JOHN RIVERS (jazz) Leunig's 7:30 p.m. NC

LAST NIGHT'S JOY (Irish) Ri Rá Irish Pub 7 p.m. NC

JAMES HARVEY QUARTET (jazz) Red Square 10 p.m. NC

SPEAREAST (groove-rock) Nectar's, 10 p.m. NC

SOUL KITCHEN W/DJ JUSTIN B. (acid jazz/house and beyond) Club Metronome 10 p.m. $2

OPEN MIKE W/JIMMY JAMS Manhattan Pizza & Pub 10 p.m. NC

DJS SPARKS, BRINO & HI ROLLA (hip-hop/reggae) Rasputin's, 10 p.m. NC/$7. 18+

BASHMENT (reggae DJ) Ruben James 10 p.m. NC.

REGGAE NIGHT (Itation Sound, Full Spectrum Sound) Millennium Nightclub, Burlington 9 p.m. NC/$5 18+ before 11 p.m.

KARAOKE J.P.'s Pub 9 p.m. NC

A. DOG (hip-hop/acid jazz/lounge) The Waiting Room 11 p.m. NC

LARRY BRETT'S JUKEBOX (DJ) Sh-Na-Na's, 8 p.m. NC.

CHROME COWBOYS & SPECIAL GUESTS (vintage country; annual Christmas party) Higher Ground 8 p.m. $6. 18+

KARAOKE W/BONNIE DRAKE Edgewater Pub 9 p.m. NC

CHRIS KLEEMAN & MALCOLM (acoustic blues) Good Times Café, 7:30 p.m. $8 AA

LADIES NIGHT KARAOKE City Limits, 9 p.m. NC

OPEN MIKE Mad Mountain Tavern 9 p.m. NC

OPEN MIKE, Diner's Dunn Restaurant 7 p.m. Donations. ©

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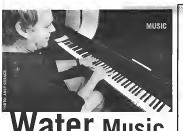

Water Music

Navigating the lake-inspired latest from Burlington pianist Lar Duggan

By Shawn Scheps

If there were an award for best under recorded jazz artist in Burlington, it would be a toss-up between two long-time regulars on the local scene — James Harvey and Lar Duggan. Harvey recently released his first solo album, and Duggan has just come out with the second in a professional career that has so far spanned 40 years.

It's noteworthy when a pianist of Duggan's high caliber decides to put out a new album but his recent release isn't exactly new. It was recorded *before* his first album, which was released more than 20 years ago and features the same title and much of the same material as his first release. Confused yet?

Duggan's sort-of-new collection is mainly a solo piano outing, *The Lake Studies: 1-16*, recorded by Charles Eller and self-released on Duggan's own Aeric label. Older fans may have heard or owned the original *Lake Studies*, also recorded by Eller and released on Philo Records in 1980.

As the title suggests, the new CD features 16 original pieces of music. All were written and recorded as part of a grant project for the Vermont Council on the Arts — as it was then called — in 1978. Two years later the now-defunct Philo Records had Duggan re-record half the original tunes. That 1980 release has long been out of print.

Duggan favors the original recordings and feels they "hold together better as a whole" than the '80 release. He also suggests they generate more of what he was after — "the feeling of the lake."

"The performance aims were simpler and, I feel, more successful," says Duggan. "I was mainly trying to document the material I'd written for the [grant] project. It is an unadorned approach, more transparent, and done much closer in time to the writing period. It feels more to me as though I were playing the music rather than playing the piano."

Although the music defies any narrow classification, it could be described as ambient, classically infused jazz. While the influence of legendary jazz pianists Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett is in evidence, so is the earlier work of eccentric French composer Erik Satie.

The Lake Studies effectively recreates the tranquil atmosphere of Lake Champlain and the weather and events that transpire in and around it. Duggan's fluid playing frequently has graceful motifs, painting a collage of colors and conjuring an array of emotions. If you close your eyes you can almost feel a cool breeze blow over, see birds soaring overhead and picture the life going on beneath the water's surface. As a whole, the album works as a soundscape with a breezy, distant feel that evokes an aura of freedom and solitude.

Although the '80 Philo recordings feature a cleaner sound quality, they do feel a bit hurried compared to the more organic flow of the new release.

The order of the tracks on *The Lake Studies: 1-16* also corresponds to the original chronology in which they were written, allowing for "certain thematic leanings to emerge which bind the work together as a whole," as Duggan puts it.

Before composing, the pianist put quite a bit of time into thinking about how to translate the feel of the lake through sound, what musical events might seem to correspond with natural ones. "There are musical structures — slow tempos, perfect intervals, open voicings — which seem appropriate for conveying a vast and peaceful horizontal plain," says Duggan.

Whereas the original release was a mere 45 minutes, this one clocks in at a whopping 73 minutes. It does seem to drag if you really listen the entire way through. Duggan realizes this, and even suggests that he wanted it that way.

"It's trying to evoke a place and it should be kind of ambient," he says. "And any time you want to pay attention, it also should be interesting."

A couple of tracks near the end, which were not included on the Philo release, feature Vermont violinist David Gusakov. After an hour of solo piano, the sound of the strings is a welcome contrast, and provides a warm end to the aural excursion.

The 59-year-old Duggan cites finances, temperament and the fact that he doesn't generate material quickly to explain why he hasn't released more music over the years. But even without much tangible product, the humble performer's prowess has impacted many. Phish keyboardist Page McConnell, a former student, cites Duggan as one of his main influences. Bandmate and guitarist Trey Anastasio once dubbed him a "genius" in the Burlington music 'zine *Good Citizen*.

If you catch Duggan playing around town, don't expect to hear any of *The Lake Studies* pieces. He's more interested in moving forward. The music he plays now is different from what he wrote and played back then, though he still considers himself "generally" a jazz player.

"I feel very fluent in jazz and real at home in it as a performer but I don't feel committed to it as the only kind of music that I want to be playing," Duggan surmises. "It's sort of acquired enough history that it actually has set up rules for performers that are artificial. And I don't think that much of the derivative jazz."

The ambiance of solitude and serenity in *The Lake Studies* might make it a welcome stocking-stuffer in this "post 9/11" holiday season. Fans will also be glad to know they don't have to wait another 20 years for a new recording. Duggan leaves the lake behind on his next release, embracing technology with an orchestral-sounding electronic endeavor. Inspired by the desire to "get free" of preconceptions, he hopes to release the digitalized venture next year. ⑦

For a copy of The Lake Studies: 1-16, *contact Lar Duggan at larduggan@aol.com. He performs live at The Waiting Room in Burlington this Sunday, 7 p.m.*

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Art LisTiNGs

POSTER MODERNISM *If 2001 feels all downhill from here, you'll appreciate the exhibit of vintage Swiss ski and travel posters, from the Danal/Spencer Collection, currently displayed at the Helen Day Art Center in Stowe. From the '20s through the '50s, poster designers found inspiration in the art movements of the day, from Expressionism to avant-garde. The colorful graphics provide a retro counterpart to the elaborately trimmed Christmas trees outside. Pictured, a lithograph by an anonymous artist in Zurich.*

openings

VERMONT WATERCOLOR SOCIETY, works by more than 60 artists from around the state. Southern Vermont Arts Center, Manchester, 457-2020. Reception December 15, 2-4 p.m.

talks & events

MY FAVORITE THINGS FAMILY DAY, in conjunction with annual festival of the Christmas trees, featuring cookie decorating with Jay Van Blarcom Dance Academy with Helena Sullivan, music from the Stowe Community Children's Choir and the Vermont String School, and a holiday story reading by Margo Kelly. Helen Day Art Center, Stowe, 253-8358. December 15, noon - 4 p.m.

HOLIDAY POTTERY STUDIO SALE, earthy gifts by Claude Leffman. 214 Battery St., Burlington, 660-4792. Open house December 14, 4-8 p.m., December 15, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ongoing

BURLINGTON AREA

NOR'EASTER, paintings by Robert Waldo Brunelle. Sneakers Bistro Café, Winooski, 899-1106. Through December.

HAND MADE VT, paintings by Michael Smith. Village Cup, Jericho, 899-1730. Through December.

BRIGHT MOMENTS, handmade prints by Kity Newton. Red Onion Café, Burlington, 865-2563. Through February 6.

ILLUMINATION, new work by Art Blue and Donna Constantineau. Pickering Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 865-7200. Through January 2.

VERNISSAGE 2002, a group exhibit of 34 local and national artists represented by the gallery. Doll-Anstadt Gallery, Burlington, 864-3661. Through January.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS, new and juried works including children's books and original pastels by Phoebe Stone, pottery by Simon Pearce, one-of-a-kind plates by Pat Laffin and Shaker boxes by Brian Harding. Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center, Burlington, 863-6458. Through December.

SHIVA, photographs by Rose McNulty and sculpture by H. Keith Wagner. Church & Maple Gallery, Burlington, 863-3880. Through January 2.

PIECES OF PROPAGANDA, photo and collage works by Rebecca Mack. Rad 'n Rean, Burlington, 660-9346. Through December.

GROUP HOLIDAY EXHIBIT, new work by

weekly listings on www.sevendaysvt.com

15 artists. Furchgott Sourdiffe Gallery, Shelburne, 985-3848. Through January 18.
FROM MY WINDOW AND OTHER THINGS: wildlife photographs by Donna Underwood-Owens. Fletcher Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 865-7211. Through December.
JOHANNE DUROCHER: watercolor and acrylic paintings. Café Piccolo, Burlington, 862-4515. Through December.
YOUNG ARTIST SERIES: an exhibit to benefit the Landmine Elimination Foundation, featuring photographs by Andy Duback, Jason Robinson, Peter Johnson and Jing Qi Hu; paintings by Grace Corcoran; pen and sculpture by Katherine Clear. Main Street Landing Building, One Main St., Burlington, 864-1557. Through December.
GROUP EXHIBITION featuring fabric art by Dianne Shullenberger, metal sculpture by Jack Chase, blown glass by Casey McMorris, books by Maggie Wolf, raku pottery by Irena LaCroix, paintings by Julia Y. Baker Albright and more. Dianne Shullenberger Gallery, 228 Nashville Rd., Jericho, 899-4993. Weekends, through December.
KIMBERLEY FOWELL, pen & ink drawings. Uncommon Grounds, Burlington, 865-6227. Through December.
JOHANNE DUROCHER: watercolors and charcoals of still lifes and landscapes. Grateful Bread Deli, Essex Junction, 878-4464. Through December 15.
FUTBOL & OTHER IMPRESSIONS OF ART: paintings by Luis Tijerina. Daily Planet, Burlington, 660-7172. Through December 18.
POLITICS BY ANOTHER MEANS: ART & WAR, oil paintings by Luis Tijerina. Red Square, Burlington, 660-7172. Through December 17.
LISA ANGELL: oil pastels. Chittenden Bank, Burlington, 864-1557. Through December.
SPY.COM: pen-and-ink drawings of people by Abby Manock. Chain Reaction, 1 Lawson Lane, Burlington, 863-6627. Through January 1.
RECOLLECTIONS: paintings, photomosaic portraits and landscapes by Meryl Lebowitz. Amy E. Tarrant Gallery, Flynn Center, Burlington, 863-5966. Through December.
DRESSED AS ART, ALTERED: featuring clothing as artwork by Maggie Neale, M.D. Hochfelder, Emily Anderson, Ulf Seasky, Lizzy Betts, Josie Bond and many others. Flynndog Gallery, Burlington, 863-2227. Through December.
FIRE & WATER: photographs of adventures involving forest fires, rivers and oceans, by Jay Monahan. Smokejacks, Burlington, 658-1119. Through December.
RECORD DEAL, an evolving installation by Clark Russell. Club Metronome, Burlington, 862-3779. Ongoing.
NEW WORK IN WOOD: a group show featuring works in the medium;
WEAVING THE PATTERNS OF THE LAND: PRESERVING LOCAL TEXTILE TRADITIONS: textile works by contemporary local weavers, and documentary color photographs by David VanBuskirk, and **THEMATIC WORKS ON PAPER** featuring European and American traditions of landscape, portraiture, genre and still life in works spanning the 17th to 20th centuries. Fleming Museum, Burlington, 656-0750. All through December 16, then museum closes until January 15.
THE COLLECTOR'S HOUSE: a new building envisioning the home of a 21st century folk art collector, designed by architect Adam Kalkin and decorated by Albert Hadley. Shelburne Museum, 985-3346. Through October 2003.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY

THE SPIRIT OF OBJECTS: an exhibit of items from the permanent collection that show how individuals interact with the past. Henry Sheldon Museum, Middlebury, 388-2117. Through April 2002.
STEPHEN HUNECK, woodcuts and lithographs with a canine theme. Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center, Middlebury, 388-3177. Through December.

CENTRAL VERMONT

NEW WORKS by students and instructors. Creative Space, Rutland, 773-4350. Through January.
VERMONT IN BLACK AND WHITE, scenic photographs by Peter Miller. Mist Grill Gallery, Waterbury, 244-2233. Through January 6.
TAKE IT HOME: REAL ART FOR REAL PEOPLE: 20 artists exhibit works in various media. Studio Place Arts, Barre, 479-7241. Through January 12.
BROOKFIELD ARTISTS & CRAFTERS: artists who meet weekly exhibit their watercolors, baskets and quilts. Chandler Gallery, Randolph, 728-3232. Through January 20.
CLACK UP TO NOW: impressionistic paintings by Paul Clack. La Brioche Bakery & Café, City Center, Montpelier, 229-4762. Through December.
JOAN DAVIDSON: photographs from around the world. Capitol Grounds, Montpelier, 223-7800. Through December.
INTERSECTION: paintings by Susan Dygert. City Hall Art Space, Montpelier, 229-9416. Through January 6.
TINKA MARTELL: art works in torn paper, fabric and inks. Spotlight Gallery, Vermont Arts Council, Montpelier, 828-5422. Through December.
PLAYING WITH HALF A DECK, a group exhibit celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Art Resource Association. T.W. Wood Gallery, Vermont College, Montpelier, 828-8743. Through December 23.
VERMONT ARTISTS' HOLIDAY SHOW featuring drawings by Joan Curtis and Don Ramey; ceramics by Mariel Pitti; sculpture by Patrick Farrow, Charles Austin, Steve Humphrey and Steve Spatz; prints by Carolyn Shattuck; and photography by Chris Matheson. Carving Studio & Sculpture Center Gallery, Rutland, 438-2097. Through December 23.
HOLIDAY EXHIBIT featuring more than 30 artists in multiple media. Blinking Light Gallery, Plainfield, 454-0141. Through December 24.
PHOTOGRAPHIC SCULPTURE: VERMONT ENVIRONS — SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY: an installation by Orah Moore and Tim Prentice commissioned for Morrill Hall. Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, 828-5422. Ongoing.
KENNETH P. OCHAB: new landscape oil paintings, and works by other Vermont artists Keith Davidson, Kathleen Bergeron, Gertrude Hobson and Joyce Kahn. Gold Leaf Gallery, Waitsfield, 279-3824. Ongoing.
REED A. PRESCOTT III: oil paintings of garden scenes and landscapes. Vermont Supreme Court, Montpelier, 828-4784. Through December 21.
PAINTED POTS: THE ART OF MAJOLICA: a group exhibit of works with roots in the Middle East, Spain and Italy. Vermont Clay Studio, Waterbury, 244-1126. Through December.

NORTHERN

CASH & CARRY SHOW: arts and crafts in all media, ready to take home. Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury, 748-2600. Through December.
MY FAVORITE THINGS: an annual festival of Christmas trees and vintage European ski posters from the Dana Collection. Helen Day Art Center, Stowe, 253-8358. Through December 30.
HOLIDAY SHOW featuring work by Carolyn Walton, Julia Y. Baker Albright, Elizabeth Allen, Gary Sudol, Lisa Angell, Bob Aiken, Allan Dwight, Jan Brough and Peter A. Miller. Sales will benefit scholarships for art students at Vermont state colleges. Vermont Fine Art Gallery, Stowe, 253-9653. Through December.
VIEWS OF THE KINGDOM: mixed media paintings and tapestries inspired by the Northeast Kingdom by Barbara Porter. Windhorse Commons, Octagon Building, St. Johnsbury, 748-3792. Through January.

continued on page 42a

ART

What a Steel

Detail of "Nostalgia," by Rose McNulty

By Marc Awodey

Burlington's Church & Maple Gallery has avoided the temptation of hanging a seasonally themed group show for the holidays. Plenty of art glass-pieces are available for gift buyers, but the December show is simply another well-curated pairing of exceptional Vermont artists.

Rose McNulty presents 20 color and black-and-white photographs creatively mounted on thin metal, and H. Keith Wagner offers 15 mostly untitled metal sculptures. The two bodies of work are complementary without being too much alike, and both artists have mastered the art of keeping it simple.

The sphere is the most basic three-dimensional form, and Wagner has contributed six of them to the show. The largest, about 40 inches in diameter, is fashioned from tightly wrapped bands of steel, like a ball of rubber bands. Another smaller sphere of similar construction is positioned on a grid of sticks, giving the ball an organic context. One of the most intriguing of Wagner's spheres is made of railroad spikes. "Dandelion" is about 20 inches in diameter and the points of the spikes aim toward their heads radiating outwards. The image is remarkably delicate — like a rusty dandelion ready to release its parachuting seeds.

Another untitled construction is based on the cube. It is a large floor piece with open sides and 10 cubes of granite hanging within. These cubes are arranged in a square, which has a sphere of wire at its center.

Wagner's "Vessel," a curious form standing six feet high, is a sort of squared onion dome atop two long legs. Like the spheres, it is welded from steel that has a pretty rusted patina. His simple shapes have wonderfully rich rough surfaces, and Wagner seems to use rust as an element of nature rather than as a symbol of industrial decadence.

> The two bodies of work are complemetary without being too much alike, and both artists have mastered the art of keeping it simple.

Textures are also important to McNulty's work. By mounting her photos on gritty metal, she contrasts two very different textures and immediately presents the pieces as objects, rather than as pictures of objects.

There are two main themes in her collection — details of India and more prosaic objects such as bicycles. In both cases McNulty's compositions are as simple and perfect as Wagner's spheres. Her use of color and value are also distilled into a few basic harmonies.

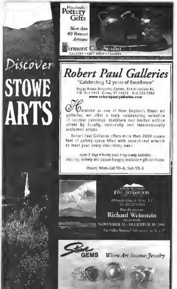
One of the photographs focuses on the midsection of a red trike framed within a yellow square in the background. Subtle angles and rhythms, such as a small part of chain link fence visible at left, create connections between differing visual planes.

The pieces from India are less geometric, but McNulty maintains the same approach. "Hushed Tones (Ganesh)" is basically red, yellow and gray, and the roundness of the elephant's eye — the focal point of the photo — is echoed by red circles that decorate the elephant's trunk.

McNulty's lens has also found hands and feet decorated with swirls and concentric lines. The black-and-white "Dalliance" is a pair of decorated feet that seems calmly disembodied against a dark background and a shiny floor. In contrast, "Resonance" has a vibrant purple, red and a pale yellow background. It is a close-up of a dancer's bare, vermilion-painted left foot, heel on the floor and toes in the air. She has purple pantaloons and ankle bracelets, and the leg rises toward the upper left of the picture plane in a graceful sweep. Simple, but also elegant.

It's just good art, but an elephant's eye, or a giant sphere made of steel bands, might look pretty nice under the tree. ⑦

Photographs by Rose McNulty and sculptures by H. Keith Wagner. Church & Maple Gallery, Burlington. Through January 2.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Art LisTiNGs

continued from page 41a

'NOTE' WORTHY *Regulars at the Red Onion are used to having lunch with Roy Newton. That is, with his prints, which have been "in residency" at the downtown Burlington café for years. Revolving shows reveal the Grand Isle — by way of the British Isles — artist as a master of the handmade print. His linoblock, woodblock, lithograph and monoprint variations have depicted Vermont scenes as well as Newton's favorite jazz musicians. The exhibit's title, "Bright Moments," references a song of the same name by Roland Kirk, pictured here.*

SOUTHERN

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS, featuring woodcut prints and other work by Stephen Huneck. Stephen Huneck Gallery, Woodstock, 457-3206. Through December.

ELSEWHERE

HOLIDAY GATHERING EXHIBIT, featuring folk-art Santas and angels, metal salvage sculpture, rugs, linens, quilts and more by local artists and craftspeople. Cupola House Gallery, Essex, N.Y., 518-963-7494. Through December 23.

RESERVATION X: THE POWER OF PLACE, mu media installations by seven contemporary Native American artists from the U.S. and Canada. Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 603-646-2426. Through December 16.

PIRANESI-GOYA, 300 prints created by two of the 18th-19th century's great etc printmakers, and **DISASTERS OF WAR**, 19th-century prints by Francisco Goya and contemporary counterparts by British artists Jake and Dinos Chapman. Through February 3. Montréal Museum of Fine Arts, 514-285-2000.

PLEASE NOTE: *Seven Days is unable to accommodate all of the displays in our readership area, thus these listings must be restricted to exhibits in truly public viewing places. Art in business offices, lobbies and private residences or studios, with occasional exceptions, will not be accepted. Send art listings to galleries@sevendaysvt.com. You can also view art listings at www.sevendaysvt.com.*

EARLY HOLIDAY DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Friday, December 14, for events taking place from Wednesday, December 19, through Wednesday, January 9.

SECTION B! (Very handily located after Section A.)

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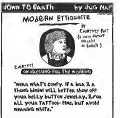
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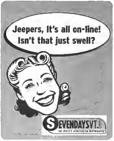
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☐ 5 Stock up on asprin, clean underwear, and assorted bad things before New Year's resolutions lock in
☐ 6 Avoid Dick Clark like the plague
☐ 7. Listen to the Top 99 of 2001 Countdown on 99.9 the Buzz New Year's Eve.
☐ 8. Learn how to count backwards from 10.
☐ 9 Find someone not heinous to kiss before midnight rolls around
☐ 10. Listen to the #1 Buzz Cut of the Year at midnight while smooching

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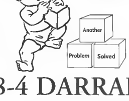

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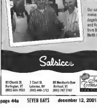
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TalKing PiCturEs

By Rick Kisonak

STRIP TEASE Soderbergh's Vegas heist caper is all star-studded promise, no pay-off.

review

OCEAN'S ELEVEN1/2**

The fine director Steven Soderbergh won an Academy Award last year for his work on *Traffic* and, in a sense, *Ocean's Eleven* is the post-Oscar party he's thrown for Hollywood pals old and new.

George Clooney, who worked with Soderbergh in the far superior *Out of Sight*, stars in this remake of the 1960 Rat Pack caper classic about an ex-con who hatches a plan and puts together a crew to rob three Las Vegas casinos in a single night — in the original, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and company targeted five.

Clooney's in total smoothie mode. He's unflappable, suave and fearless. Unfortunately, that doesn't prevent his character from proving totally one-dimensional.

Julia Roberts, who worked with Soderbergh in the far superior *Erin Brockovich*, has been marketed as Clooney's costar but, in fact, has maybe 20 lines in the film. In the role of the professional thief's ex-wife, she turns up in a handful of scenes as the squeeze of a smarmy casino owner played by Andy Garcia. *Surprise!* — the casinos Clooney plans to loot belong to him.

Brad Pitt gives a one-note performance as Clooney's right-hand man — the character Martin played in the original. Instead of having a highball in his hand throughout the movie, though, Pitt noshes on some form of food in scene after scene. Get it? He's not drinking, he's eating! That's about as subtle as things get here.

Anyway, the first half of the picture is devoted to the now-familiar process through which hatchers of heist plans assemble the crew they'll need to pull their jobs. One by one, colorful characters with specific colorful skills are recruited.

For example, Don Cheadle, who also worked with Soderbergh in the far superior *Out of Sight*, plays a shady Brit with expertise in the area of electronics. He knocks out the town's power briefly at one point. Another knows the casino business from the inside. Matt Damon is a lightning-quick pickpocket. Another is a computer geek. What would a modern-day heist saga be without the mandatory cyberwhiz?

The second half chronicles the break-in itself. If you've ever watched modern-day heist sagas such as *Reindeer Games*, *The Score* or *Entrapment*, not to mention either of the *Mission Impossible* films, very little that takes place in the course of the big night is surprising. Or terribly entertaining.

Thanks to the team's careful planning — well, actually thanks to lots and lots of coincidences, accidents and incredible, only-in-the-movies good luck — the burglars are able to make their way past the usual criss-crossing laser-beam sensors, get access to top-secret security codes and rig the surveillance system so that guards watch a prerecorded tape of the scene inside the main vault as the robbery takes place instead of a live picture.

You know, just like police did in *Speed* to fool Dennis Hopper. Now am I imagining it, or has every one of these become a certified movie cliché over the past decade?

The final act is no less by-the-numbers, the rekindling of affairs between George and Julia is even more unbelievable and, by the time the credits roll, all involved are up to their A-list armpits in loose ends. Given that he made two great films last year, I was ready for Soderbergh to kick back and have a little lightweight fun. What I wasn't prepared for was take-the-money-and-run nonsense.

Which is pretty much my appraisal of *Ocean's Eleven*, though I am apparently the only film reviewer in America to hold the all-star charismo-thon in such so-so esteem. Unless I've lost my mind, though, what we have here is a case of high-powered Hollywood types hoping to hit a box-office jackpot with a festival of fabulousness so studded with stars, viewers will be blind to the film's staggering and unexpected mediocrity.⑦

previews

FOCUS Neil Slavin adapts Arthur Miller's 1945 novel about a man with glasses mistaken for a Jew in WWII-era Brooklyn. William H. Macy and Laura Dern star. (PG-13)

GLEANERS AND I In her latest film, seventysomething French director Agnes Varda sheds light on the little-seen life of the "gleaners" — people who live in the countryside and scavenge in potato fields, apple orchards and vineyards. (NR)

JUMP TOMORROW Director Joel Hopkins' big-screen debut is a romantic comedy about a young Nigerian-American who falls in love with a vibrant Latina woman just as he's about to be married. (PG-13)

KATE & LEOPOLD Meg Ryan and Hugh Jackman are paired in this latest time-travel vehicle, the story of a woman who falls for a guy who mysteriously materializes from the past. (PG-13)

LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING Elijah Wood and Liv Tyler star in Peter Jackson's big-screen take on J.R.R. Tolkien's beloved classic about hobbits, wizards, elves and a boy who saves the world from the forces of darkness. (PG-13)

NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE Director Joel Gallen makes his feature debut with this *Airplane*-style send-up featuring, among others, Mia Kirshner, Jaime Pressly, Jay Bisco and Randy Quaid. (R)

NOVOCAINE David Atkins wrote and directed this dark comedy about a dentist who finds himself drawn into a bizarre murder plot by a mysterious patient. Steve Martin and Helena Bonham Carter star. (R)

VANILLA SKY Cameron Crowe and Tom Cruise reteam for the first time since *Jerry Maguire*. This time around, they tell the story of a playboy who finally finds the true love that will redeem him, just as a psycho, suicidal ex barges back into his life. With Penelope Cruz and Cameron Diaz. (R)

shorts

= REFUND, PLEASE
** = *COULD'VE BEEN WORSE, BUT NOT A LOT*
*** = *HAS ITS MOMENTS; SO-SO*
**** = *SMARTER THAN THE AVERAGE BEAR*
***** = *AS GOOD AS IT GETS*

AMELIE***1/2 Audrey Tautou plays a Parisian waitress who discovers a box of childhood mementos in her apartment, returns it to its owner and changes both their lives forever in this highly acclaimed romance from

→

Alien Resurrection director Jean-Pierre Jeunet. (R)

BEHIND ENEMY LINES**1/2 Owen Wilson and Gene Hackman suit up for director John Moore's military thriller about a pilot who's shot down while taking incriminating surveillance photos. David Keith costars. (PG-13)

BLACK KNIGHT* Martin Lawrence goes medieval in the latest comedy from Gil (*10 Things I Hate About You*) Junger. It's the story of a Middle Ages theme park employee who finds himself magically transported back to the real deal. With Tom Wilkinson. (PG-13)

GRATEFUL DAWG**1/2 Gillian Grisman chronicles the long friendship and musical collaboration enjoyed by Jerry Garcia and her father, bluegrass mandolinist David Grisman. (PG-13)

HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE*** Chris Columbus' big-screen version of the J.K. Rowling best-seller is solid, fanciful fun for the initiated but can prove periodically perplexing for anyone not already steeped in Harry-related lore. Daniel Radcliffe stars.

K-PAX**1/2 Gene Brewer's 1995 best-seller makes it to the big screen in the latest from Iain Softley, the story of a mysterious figure who one day appears at Grand Central Station and announces that he's a being from another planet. Jeff "Starman" Bridges plays the shrink authorities ship him off to at the speed of light. (PG-13)

LIFE AS A HOUSE**1/2 Kevin Kline stars in the story of an architect who learns he's dying and decides to spend his remaining time building the house of his dreams and reconciling with his teen-age son. Hayden Christensen costars. Irwin Winkler directs. (R)

MONSTERS, INC.***1/2 The new film from the computer whizzes behind *Toy Story* features the voices of Billy Crystal and John Goodman and is set in the creepy creature capital of Monstropolis, where special portals connect the city to bedroom closets of children they terrorize. Peter Docter and David Silverman direct. (G)

OCEAN'S ELEVEN**1/2 Oscar-winning director Steven Soderbergh remakes the 1960 heist classic about a group of pals who rob five Las Vegas casinos in a single night. Standing in for the Rat Pack is the cast of the year: George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Don Cheadle, Julia Roberts and Bill Murray. (PG-13)

OUT COLD** Jason London and Zach Galifianakis play hard partying, girl chasing, snowboarding buddies in the latest comedy from the directing team of the Malloys. With Lee Majors. (PG-13)

THE PRINCESS DIARIES*** Garry Marshall directs this comedy about a 16-year-old *New Yorker* who's surprised to find out she's the sole heir to the throne of Genovia. With Julie Andrews and Robert Schwartzman. (G)

RAT RACE*** The latest from Jerry Zucker features John Cleese as a billionaire casino owner who masterminds a scheme in which gamblers get to bet on which of six competitors will find the $2 million he's hidden somewhere in America in a locker. Whoopi Goldberg, Seth Green and Cuba Gooding Jr. costar. (PG-13)

SERENDIPITY*** John Cusack and Kate Beckinsale are paired in this romantic comedy about two New Yorkers who meet, talk through the night and then elect to let fate decide whether they'll ever bump into one another again. Peter Chelsom directs. (PG-13)

SHALLOW HAL*** Nobody has ever accused the Farrellys of getting heavy in their films, but the brothers take on the weighty issue of inner beauty in their latest — the saga of a guy who falls for an ultra-tubby woman but sees only the supermodel within. Jack Black and Gwyneth Paltrow star. Burlington's Rene Kirby plays a role. (PG-13)

SIDEWALKS OF NEW YORK*** The latest from actor-writer-director Ed Burns tracks the love-connected lives of a group of New Yorkers, starring Stanley Tucci, Brittany Murphy and Heather Graham. (R)

SPY GAME***1/2 Brad Pitt and Robert Redford are paired in the latest thriller from Tony Scott, the saga of a CIA operative who winds up in a Chinese prison and the mentor who spends his last day on the job trying to break him out. (R)

13 GHOSTS**1/2 Shannon Elizabeth and Tony Shalhoub are teamed in this remake of the 1960 William Castle thriller. Shortly after moving into their new all-glass home, daughter and father find they have uninvited supernatural guests. F. Murray Abraham costars. Steve Beck directs. (R)

ZOOLANDER**1/2 Ben Stiller cowrote and directed this *Austin Powers*-reminiscent comedy about a male model who uncovers a plot to turn professional fashion plates into unwitting assassins. With Owen Wilson and Milla Jovovich. (PG-13)

new on video

HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH**** John Cameron Mitchell directs and stars in the saga of an "internationally ignored" East German rock singer who reluctantly undergoes a sex change so he can marry an American G.I. and try his luck rocking in the free world. Andrea Martin costars. (R)

JURASSIC PARK 3***1/2 Sam Neill goes up against the big lizards a third time when his plane crashes on the one island in the whole world you'd think he'd know by now he should avoid. William H. Macy and Téa Leoni come along for the ride. Joe Johnston directs. (PG-13)

RUSH HOUR 2**1/2 Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker are together again in this sequel to their 1998 buddy blockbuster. This time the two team up to battle Chinese crooks in Hong Kong. Chris Penn costars. Brett Ratner directs. (PG-13)

THE SCORE***1/2 The latest from director Frank Oz teams Robert De Niro and Ed Norton for the saga of an aging thief blackmailed out of retirement by a brash upstart. Marlon Brando costars. (R)

other screenings

CATAMOUNT ARTS CENTER, St. Johnsbury, 748-2600

12 wednesday

GRATEFUL DAWG This musical documentary details the musical relationship between Jerry Garcia and David Grisman. December 12 & 13, 7 p.m.

LIAM This film by Stephen Frears tells the life and times of one small boy in Depression-era Liverpool. December 14, 17-19, 7 p.m. December 15, 7 & 9 p.m.; December 16, 1:30 & 7 p.m.

HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM, Middlebury, 388-2117

MRS. PERKINS BALL Adapted from an 1848 farce on Victorian ballroom manners by William Makepeace Thackeray, this hour-long film features a 19th-century ball. December 16, 2-4 p.m.

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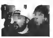
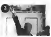
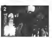
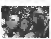
face lifts

Once again we've selected scenes from four well-known movies and, through the magic of Film Quiz Technology, zapped the famous faces of their stars right out of the picture. Your job, as always, is to identify the four films, anyway, minus their stars and with only a single clue-ridden scene apiece to go on.









① ____________ ③ ____________

② ____________ ④ ____________

For more film fun don't forget to watch "Art Patrol" every Thursday, Friday and Sunday on News Channel 5!

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS

BARRY DAVIS
TINA MONTGOMERY
RAY GOSS
MICK PROVENCHER
RICHARD KNUGEN
MARY MERCIER
JOHN FLYNN
WAYNE NOLAN
PAM FOSTER
GEORGE BROWN

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

THE SIXTH SENSE

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shOWtimES

All shows daily unless otherwise indicated. * = New film. Film times may change. Please call theaters to confirm.

BIJOU CINEPLEX 1-2-3-4

Rt. 100, Morrisville, 888-3293

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

Ocean's Eleven 1, 3:30, 6:50, 9:10. Harry Potter 12:15, 3:15, 6:15, 9. Spy Game 12:40, 3:40, 6:30, 9:15. Monsters, Inc. 12, 2, 4, 7, 9. Matinees Sat-Sun only. Late show Fri-Sat only.

friday 14 — thursday 20

Ocean's Eleven 1, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10. Harry Potter 12:14, 4:15, 6:14, 9. Spy Game 12:40, 4:40, 6:30, 9:15. Monsters, Inc. 12, 2, 4, 6, 8. Matinees Sat-Sun and beginning Dec. 19. Late show Fri-Sat and beginning Dec. 19.

CINEMA NINE

Shelburne Rd. S. Burlington, 864-5610

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

Ocean's Eleven 12:10, 12:40, 3:10, 3:40, 6:30, 6:50, 9:10, 9:45. Behind Enemy Lines 12, 1:4, 3, 7:05, 9:50. Spy Game 12:20, 4:15, 6:50, 9:40. Black Knight 3:30, 9:40. Harry Potter 12, 12:30, 2:50, 3:20, 3:30, 6:10, 6:40, 7:20, 9:30. Shallow Hal 12:40, 7:10. Monsters, Inc. 1:45, 4, 6:15, 8:30. Purchase *Lord of the Rings* tickets in advance at the box office.

friday 14 — tuesday 18

Vanilla Sky* 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:45. Not Another Teen Movie* 12:14, 2:15, 4:20, 7, 9:20. Ocean's Eleven 12:10, 12:40, 3:10, 3:40, 6:30, 9:00, 9:15, 9:34. Behind Enemy Lines 12:14, 3, 7:05, 9:50. Spy Game 12:20, 4:14, 6:56, 9:40. Harry Potter 11:30 (Sat-Sun only), 12, 2:30, 3:20, 6:10, 6:40, 9:30. Shallow Hal 10. Monsters, Inc. 11:30 (Sat-Sun only), 1:45, 4, 6:15, 8:30.

ETHAN ALLEN CINEMAS 4

North Ave. Burlington, 863-6040

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

Zoolander 1:30, 3:30, 6:44, 8:15. K-PAX 1, 4:30, 6:14, 8:45. Princess Diaries 1:10, 6. Serendipity 1:46, 6:30, 8. Rat Race 3:40, 8:30.

friday 14 — sunday 16

Zoolander 1:30, 6:44, 9:10. K-PAX 1, 6:30, 8:45. 13 Ghosts 1:44, 7:30, 9:40. Serendipity 1:15, 7, 9:20. Theater closes Dec. 17-20 for remodeling.

ESSEX OUTLETS CINEMA

Essex Outlet Fair, Rt. 15 & 289, Essex Junction, 879-6543

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

Ocean's Eleven 1, 4:40, 6:30, 9:10. Behind Enemy Lines 12:40, 4:50, 6:50, 8:40. Spy Game 1, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10. Out Cold 12:10, 2:45, 4, 7:20, 9:40. Harry Potter 11:44, 12:30, 4:14, 4, 6:30, 7:30, 10. Shallow Hal 1:10, 4:20, 7, 9:50. Monsters, Inc. 12:20, 2:45, 5, 7:20, 9:30.

friday 14 — tuesday 18

Vanilla Sky* 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:50. Not Another Teen Movie* 12:50, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 10. Ocean's Eleven 1, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30. Behind Enemy Lines 12:40, 4:50, 7, 9:40. Spy Game 1, 4:10, 7:10, 10. Harry Potter 12, 12:30, 3:15, 4, 6:30, 7:30, 9:45. Monsters, Inc. 12:20, 2:45, 4, 7:20, 9:30.

NICKELODEON CINEMAS

College Street, Burlington, 863-9515

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

Ocean's Eleven 3:10, 6:40, 9:15. Sidewalks of New York 4:14, 7:14, 10. Baran 3:30, 6:50, 4:40. Spy Game 3:45, 7, 9:50. Harry Potter 2:50, 6:10, 8:30. Monsters, Inc. 4, 6:20, 8:30. Purchase *Lord of the Rings* tickets in advance at the box office.

friday 14 — tuesday 18

Focus* 11:30, 1:30, 4:20, 7, 9:30. Novocaine* 11:40, 2, 4:30, 6:50, 9:50. Kate & Leopold* 7, 9:14 (Fri-Sat). Ocean's Eleven 12:14, 3:15, 6:30, 9:14. Amelie 12:50, 4:30, 7:15 (not Fri-Sat), 10. Spy Game 12, 3:45, 6:40, 9:40. Harry Potter 11:20, 2:50, 6:10, 8:30. Matinees Ocean 2:50 Sat-Sun only. Purchase *Lord of the Rings* tickets in advance at the box office.

THE SAVOY THEATER

Main Street, Montpelier, 229-0509

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

The Vertical Ray of the Sun* 4 (Sat.-Sun.). Mulholland Drive 8:14. Grateful Dawg* 1:30 (Sat-Sun), 6:30.

friday 14 — thursday 20

The Gleaners & I 4 (Sat.-Sun.). Jump 1:30 (Sat-Sun), 6:30, 8:30.

SHOWCASE CINEMAS 5

Williston Road, S. Burlington, 863-4494

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

Behind Enemy Lines 4:25, 7. Out Cold 4, 6:40. Harry Potter 6:10. Shallow Hal 4:30, 6:50. Life as a House 3:45, 6:30.

friday 14 — tuesday 18

Vanilla Sky* 12, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30. Behind Enemy Lines 12:30, 4, 7, 9:30. Out Cold 12:30, 6:50. Harry Potter 11:40, 2:50, 6:05, 9:15. Shallow Hal 1:10, 9:25. Life as a House 12:10, 3:50, 6:30, 4:20. Matinees 3:40 Sat-Sun only. No late Ocean Mon-Tues.

STOWE CINEMA 3 PLEX

Mountain Rd. Stowe, 253-4678

wednesday 12 — thursday 13

Ocean's Eleven 7:30. Harry Potter 7. Behind Enemy Lines 7:40.

friday 14 — wednesday 19

Lord of the Rings* 8:00 & 7:30 Wed. Ocean's Eleven 2 Sat-Sun, 6:30 & 9:10 Fri-Sat, 7:30 Sun-Tues, 4 & 6:30 & 9:10 Wed. Behind Enemy Lines 2 Sat & Sun, 6:40 & 9:15 Fri-Sat, 7:40 Sun-Tues, 4 & 6:40 & 9:15 Wed. Spy Game 2 Sat. & Sun, 6:45 & 9:10 Fri. & Sat., 7:45 Sun-Tues.

Schedules for the following theaters are not available at press time.

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Route 100, Waitsfield, 496-4200
MARQUIS THEATER
Main Street, Middlebury, 388-4841
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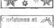

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FLICK CHICK
BY SUSAN GREEN

Hard Focus

Since November 16, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* has been raking in the big bucks. *The Fellowship of the Ring*, coming December 21, should be another blockbuster. Wedged in between those wizards and hobbits, *Focus* is a fictional but far less phantasmagoric movie — also depicting good versus evil — that opens this week in Burlington.

Adapted from a 1945 novel by playwright Arthur Miller, the independent picture about intolerance in World War II America retains an old-fashioned flavor. This is the kind of earnest, straightforward filmmaking of yesteryear that has a point to make. Director Neal Slavin leaves few doubts as to where he believes the audience's sympathies should fall: on the side of the angels, of course.

Lawrence Newman is no angel. As played by William H. Macy, this passive Everyman succumbs to cowardice when people suddenly suspect he's a Jew. The mistaken identity begins after Newman dons a pair of wire-rimmed spectacles to correct his deteriorating vision. Apparently too stubborn to simply stop wearing them, he endures all sorts of indignities — including a demotion from his job as a personnel manager — but never speaks out against the anti-Semitic zeitgeist. When he marries a fellow blonde Christian (Laura Dern), Newman finds only temporary respite from his demons.

Things get much worse on his Brooklyn street, where a next-door neighbor (Michael Lee Aday, the rocker once known as Meat Loaf) is an outright bigot. He urges Newman to prove himself by joining an underground vigilante organization with overtly fascist methods. This group regularly harasses the authentically Jewish shopkeeper on the corner, played by David Paymer. Despite this charged premise, Slavin allows the suspense to dwindle away. Macy's mild-mannered dweeb gains courage, but *Focus* never becomes electrifying entertainment. Still, it's a thought-provoking morality tale that resonates in the contemporary context of racism.

I remember a poster found in most New York City subway cars during the 1960s that read, "Ecidujerp." That's prejudice spelled backwards. Either way, it doesn't make sense.

Newman's image problem reminds me of when Pol Pot's army seized power in 1975 and began killing anyone who wore eyeglasses in the idiotic belief it would eradicate all educated Cambodians. The purge was part of a ruthless campaign to turn the clock back to what they called "Year Zero" by creating a slavish peasant society. It was narrow-minded wrath against those who might think for themselves. The Khmer Rouge would have loved the Taliban.

When *Focus* premiered at September's Toronto International Film Festival two days before the terrorist hijackings, Macy explained at a press conference that he'd initially felt too "über-Lutheran" for the role of Newman. Pointing out that bias is completely irrational, Slavin had asked him, "Who better?"

The cast members discussed homophobia and the ongoing Catholic-Protestant "troubles" in Ireland. "Our movie is not just about anti-Semitism," Paymer suggested. "It's about hatred in the universe that glints onto any religion or race or ethnic group."

He could have added "progressive ideas" to that list of targets. Most wholesale hatreds point to ignorance, the subject of so much great cinema. *Inherit the Wind* has a savvy line of dialogue as attorney Clarence Darrow addresses the judge during the 1925 trial of a high school biology teacher being prosecuted for covering evolution in his Bible Belt classroom. "And soon, Your Honor, with banners flying and drums beating, we'll be marching backward — backward through the glorious ages of that 16th century when bigots burned the man who dared bring enlightenment and intelligence to the human mind."

Macy, whose Vermont connections include his Goddard College *alma mater* and the getaway home he built in Woodbury, brings intelligence to everything he does in show business. Although not completely wild about *Focus*, *The New York Times* praised the atmospherics and the acting: The "movie's surreal style, with its film noir camerawork and luminous lighting, turns the story into a fable about fear and nonconformism, and Mr. Macy's and Ms. Dern's carefully shaded caricatures match the mood."

At first, Macy was unsure how to convey Newman's long struggle to heed his own conscience. "I thought, 'This is our protagonist?' It was hard to figure out what the objective is for the character," he revealed in Toronto. "I decided he's a guy who feels, 'This is not my fight.' But the punchline is: It's everybody's fight."

Accordingly, the press conference had a light moment of acknowledgment, as Slavin put on his glasses. Über-Lutheran Macy saluted him with "L'chaim." ⑦

The Straight Dope

Dear Cecil,

There's been a lot of talk about how the hijackers who destroyed the World Trade Center expected to receive 72 virgins (or 70 or 50, depending on whom you listen to) in paradise. Is this really true? (That they expected this, I mean, not that they'll receive it.) It seems a rather unsophisticated and juvenile theology: "In heaven you can eat all the ice cream you want and stay up past 10 o'clock and it's always recess." Is there any Koranic basis for believing that those who kill and die for the faith will get the aforementioned virgins?

— J. Haas

ILLUSTRATION SLUG SIGNORINO

I realize I'm treading on dangerous ground here. But I figure Salman Rushdie got a fatwa, and I want one too.

A couple observations. First, nonfundamentalist Muslims don't take the eschatological parts of the Koran any more literally than nonfundamentalist Christians take the biblical story of Genesis. They understand the bits about virgins and so on as metaphors for the ineffable joys of the afterlife. Second, while dreams of celestial babes may motivate the impoverished Palestinian kids who blow themselves up on Israeli street corners, a number of the 9-11 terrorists were older and had known something of earthly delights. That these middle-class types nonetheless were suicidal fanatics is yet another indication that we've entered a scary new phase.

Now to your question. The difficulty in determining what the Koran has to say about virgins and such is establishing what the Koran says, period. Translators vary widely in their rendering of the spare and often opaque text. For example, we find the following passage in a Web-based version of Islam's holy book: "Verily for the Muttaqun [righteous], there will be a success (paradise): gardens and grapeyards; and young full-breasted (mature) maidens of equal age; and a full cup (of wine)." (An-Naba 78:31-34) Whoa, one thinks — the Kingdom of Heaven meets the Playboy Advisor! However, most other English translations, both online and in print, replace "full-breasted maidens" with some tamer construction such as "companions." Inquiring further we find that the Arabic word at issue is *WahoosAArba*, which appears nowhere else in the Koran. The French, less prudish in these matters, usually render it as something like *des belles aux seins arrondis*, "beautiful ones with rounded *breasts*," so I think it's pretty clear what the Prophet, or at least his stenographers, had in mind.

Nothing in the Koran specifically states that the faithful are allotted 72 virgins apiece. For this elaboration we turn to the *hadith*, traditional sayings traced with varying degrees of credibility to Muhammad. Hadith number 2562 in the collection known as the *Sunan al-Tirmidhi* says, "The least [reward] for the people of Heaven is 80,000 servants and 72 wives, over which stands a dome of pearls, aquamarine and ruby."

A little hype from the marketing department, you may say. Fine. Let's return to the Koran, Islam's font of religious authority. Even if we leave out the racy detail and make allowances for metaphor, we're obliged to admit that Islamic heaven is a pretty *rockin'* place, with an emphasis on sensual pleasures. The provision of virgins in indeterminate quantities is alluded to at numerous points, and you know they're not just there to fluff the pillows. (In fairness to the Prophet, the physical quality usually attributed to the *houris*, as they're called, is "wide lovely eyes.") The food service, ambiance, etc, are great. You're allowed to enjoy things the Koran explicitly denies you on earth, such as alcohol, and you won't even get sick. ("Wine, delicious to those who drink it, will neither dull their senses nor they will become drunk.") Granted, the whole thing is skewed toward the male idea of a good time, a defect by no means confined to Islam. Were Muhammad to found a religion today, I'm confident that each female arrival in heaven would be assigned a comely stud who would provide fabulous sex and in addition hang the curtain rods the first time he was asked. Granted also, the emphasis on virgins is a little weird. (Think back on the first nights you've been party to. Was this your idea of great sex?) Still, you have to admit, heaven as Party Central sure beats the Christian idea of angels with harps.

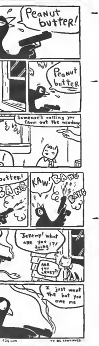
Does this make Islamic cosmology "unsophisticated and juvenile"? Maybe. (Oh, let's not be lame about this. Of course it does.) But don't be too quick to judge. Christianity, after all, invented the idea of paradise in the first place. Looking at things from the point of view of a cynical materialist, which is the more outrageous proposition — luring the proles with the promise of eternal life, or throwing 72 virgins into the bargain?

— CECIL ADAMS

Is there something you need to get straight? Cecil Adams can deliver the Straight Dope on any topic. Write Cecil Adams at the Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago, IL 60611, or e-mail him at cecil@chireader.com.

Peanutbutter & Jeremy

by JAMES KOCHALKA


Peanut butter!
Peanut butter
Someone's calling you from out the window
Peanutbutter!
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KAW!
BANG
BANG
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Are you crazy?!
No..
I just want the hat you owe me

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TO BE CONTINUED

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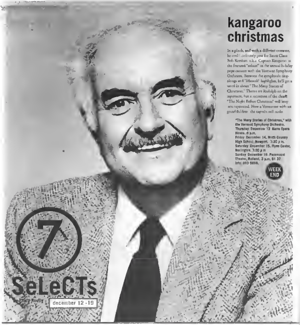
vol. 7 no. 16

7D SECTION B

FRONT PAGE GALLERY: "The Door In," oil & acrylic on metal & wood, by Tai Birdsey of New Haven

calendar >>



kangaroo christmas

In a pinch, and with a different costume, he could definitely pass for Santa Claus. Bob Keeshan a.k.a. Captain Kangaroo is the featured "soloist" in the annual holiday pops concert with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. Between the symphonic sing-alongs and "Messiah" highlights, he'll get a word in about "The Many Stories of Christmas." There's no Rudolph on the repertoire, but a recitation of the classic "The Night Before Christmas" will keep you captivated. Now a Vermonter with no grandchildren, the captain still ranks

"The Many Stories of Christmas," with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. Thursday December 13, Barre Opera House, 8 p.m. Friday December 14, North Country High School, Newport, 7:30 p.m. Saturday December 15, Flynn Center, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. Sunday December 16, Paramount Theater, Rutland, 3 p.m. $6-37. Info, 863-5966.

WEEK END

7 SeLeCTs

Paula Routly

december 12 - 19

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little mummer boys

Some of the best Christmas carols are not in the songbook. For nearly three decades musicians Tony Barrand and John Roberts have been collecting Old World songs of the season, some of which skip the savior thing altogether. The solstice is a steady source for "Nowell Sing We Clear," an annual concert and Mummers Play that gives the nod to ancient Angles. If a Christmas concert without "Jingle Bells" or the "Frosty the Snowman" sounds gloomy, remember this about the touring foursome: Their most recent recording is entitled *Just Say Nowell*.

SUN **Nowell Sing We Clear. Sunday December 16. Unitarian Church, Montpelier. 7 p.m. $12/35. Info, 229-9408.**

snow way out

It's hard to embrace the idea of "avalanche awareness" with an inch of snow on the ground. But if history repeats itself — last year's record dump was both thrilling and treacherous — it's high time to talk about the difference between good and bad snow slides. Backcountry skiers and snowboarders benefit from a session that spells out the combination of topography and snow conditions that can land you in cold storage. Even the most intrepid adventurers concede one of the best parts of snow-going is coming back to

WED **Basic Avalanche Awareness workshop. Wednesday December 19. Green Mountain Club, Waterbury, 6:30-9 p.m. $9-12. Info, 244-7037.**

moving picture

Andy Wentink paired his passions — dance and history — when he authored *From Constraint to Celebration: Two Hundred Years of Dancing in Middlebury*. But prior to working at the Sheldon Museum, he wrote and produced a movie at the public television station in Cincinnati. *Mrs. Perkins' Ball*, adapted from an 1848 farce on Victorian ballroom manners, recreates a 19th-century holiday party complete with girls in gowns. Resurrected, it is being billed as an "hour-long Christmas special." Give it a whirl.

SUN ***Mrs. Perkins' Ball* screening. Sunday December 16. Sheldon Museum, Middlebury, 2 p.m. $5. Info, 388-2117.**

handel with care

All we like sheep ... flock to Handel's *Messiah* every Christmas. It seems like every community chorus in the state has a go at the oratorio. The singers in Stowe are no exception — the holiday "Hallelujah" session wraps up a weekend of activities coined "The Light Before Christmas." Eight soloists handle the hard parts, while the public pipes up on the choruses. Bring your own score if you have it. And of course, that messianic zeal.

MON **Handel's Messiah. Monday, December 17. Stowe Community Church, 7:30 p.m. $5. Info, 253-7321, ext. 219.**

'sea' for yourself

Burlington's space race has nothing to do with astronauts. It refers to a city-wide shortage of rehearsal venues that hinders local performing artists from developing new work. So the Flynn started a regular competition that awards 60 free hours of "space" to the most compelling proposal — they call it a "N.A.S.A." grant. Theater artist Jennifer Bloomfield won one with *Laughing Under the Sea*, a sprawling epic that flows through time, space, memory and imagination. The result of her 10-week residency — which she is still calling a "work-in-progress" — now has a beginning, middle and end.

SUN ***Laughing Under the Sea*. Sunday December 16. FlynnSpace, Burlington, 4 p.m. Donations. Info, 652-4502.**

sOUnd AdviCe

Glen Schwedzer's Jalapeno Brothers celebrate a new CD this Wednesday at Higher Ground p.34a

Art LisTiNGs

Rose McNulty and H. Keith Wagner at Church & Maple Gallery p. 40a

TalKing PiCturEs

Ocean's Eleven at Essex Outlet Cinema, Cinemas 9, Nickelodeon, Bijou, Stowe Cinema p. 44a

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december 12-19

Seven Days recommends you confirm all calendar events, as times and dates may change after the paper is printed.

EARLY CALENDAR DEADLINE 5 p.m. Thursday, December 13, for events taking place from Wednesday, December 19, through Wednesday, January 8.

12 wednesday

music

• Also, see listings in "Sound Advice."

WINTER CONCERT: The three dozen local musicians that make up the Middlebury Wind Ensemble perform wintry works at Mead Chapel, Middlebury College. 7:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 462-3915.

FIRST NIGHT BLUEGRASS GOSPEL PROJECT: The Northeast's premiere bluegrass musicians convene to perform traditional songs of the gospel variety. Lebanon Opera House, N.H., 7:30 p.m. $10. Info, 603-448-0400.

drama

'NIGHT FIRES': Songs, poetry and dance take the form of a secular prayer to celebrate the winter solstice. City Hall Auditorium, Montpelier, 8 p.m. $9. Info, 863-1024.

'SOUND OF MUSIC': A story of love — and music — in Nazi-occupied Austria retraces the precarious steps of the singing von Trapp family. Briggs Opera House, White River Junction, 7 p.m. $20-30. Info, 296-7000.

film

'GRATEFUL DAWG': This musical documentary details the musical relationship between Jerry Garcia and David Grisman. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury, 7 p.m. $6.50. Info, 748-2600.

art

• Also, see exhibit openings in the art listings.

FIGURE DRAWING: The human figure motivates aspiring and accomplished artists in a weekly drawing session at Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, 6-8:30 p.m. $3.5. Info, 865-7166.

kids

STORYTIME: Young readers aged 3 to 5 learn from lighthearted literature, songs and activities. S. Burlington Community Library, 10 a.m. Free. Register, 652-7080.

'TINY TOTS' STORYTIME: The 3-and-under crowd shares social time and stories. Barnes & Noble, S. Burlington, 10 a.m. Free. Info, 864-8001.

STORY AND CRAFT TIME: Preschoolers aged 3 to 6 dabble in designs and drama. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 10-10:45 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

etc

'INTERNATIONAL BOUTIQUE': You don't need a passport to land gifts from Thailand, Indonesia, India, Africa and South America. Masonic Lodge, Route 100, Waitsfield, noon-8 p.m. Free. Info, 496-5500.

CHAMBER MIXER: Meet and mix with other local business types at a schmooze fest sponsored by the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce. Bend Home Decorating Center, Burlington, 5:30-7:30 p.m. $12. Info, 863-3489.

13 thursday

music

• Also, see listings in "Sound Advice."

THE CHRISTMAS REVELS: Local and regional revelers recreate the Middle Ages in a solstice celebration. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7:30 p.m. $5-18. Info, 603-646-2422.

'A BACH CHRISTMAS': The Vermont Mozart Festival goes for Baroque in a holiday concert featuring J.S. and J.C. Bach's Cantata VI and the Magnificat in D major are on the program at the Stowe Community Church. 7:30 p.m. $14-27.50. Info, 800-639-9097.

HOLIDAY POPS: Anthony Princiotti conducts the Vermont Symphony Orchestra in a program of holiday favorites and sing-alongs — with an "armchair Santa" visit by "Captain Kangaroo." See "7 Selects," this issue. Barre Opera House, 8 p.m. $6-19. Info, 863-5966.

CANADIAN BRASS: Dressed in tuxes and tennis shoes, the quintet decks the halls with Christmas favorites and other seasonal classics. And they can play, too. Flynn Center, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. $32-39. Info, 863-5966.

IAN THOMAS & ANGELICA: A guitar-playing troubadour teams up with an "angel voiced" songbird at the Kept Writer Bookshop, St. Albans, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 527-6242.

drama

'SOUND OF MUSIC': See December 12. 2 & 7 p.m.

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL': The Addison Repertory Theater acts out Dickens' classic Scrooge story with a revolving set and "a great deal of whimsy." Vergennes Opera House, 2 & 7:30 p.m. $10. Info, 877-6737.

film

'GRATEFUL DAWG': See December 12.

art

• See exhibit openings in the art listings.

words

NATIONAL WRITERS UNION PIZZA NIGHT: Freelance scribes dish it out on wages and other relevant writer issues. Mr. Mike's Pizza, Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 658-9667.

POETRY WORKSHOP: Local poet David Weinstock shares writing tips with aspiring authors. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury, 1 p.m. Free. Info, 388-7523.

kids

STORYTIME: See December 12.

sport

WALKING CLUB: Take strides for fun and fitness at Twin Oaks Sports, 75 Farrell St., S. Burlington, 8-9 a.m. Free. Info, 658-0002.

etc

'INTERNATIONAL BOUTIQUE': See December 12.

BUSINESS LUNCHEON: Local business folk convene with Jeff [illegible] to discuss "Rebuilding to Success After September 11th." Clarion Hotel, S. Burlington, noon. $21. Register, 223-4257.

BATTERED WOMEN VOLUNTEERS: Learn about opportunities to help abuse survivors through Women Helping Battered Women. UVM Women's Center, 34 S. Williams St., Burlington, 7-9 p.m. Free. Register, 658-3131.

HEPATITIS C POTLUCK: Bring a dish to a holiday celebration of life for people who have hepatitis C. McClure MultiGenerational Center, Burlington, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 454-1316.

QUILT GROUP: Expert and novice needlers with decorative designs apply themselves to quilting projects at the Brook Street School, Barre, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 828-8765.

TOASTMASTERS MEETING: Professional and non-professional people hone their speaking, listening and leadership skills. Best Western Hotel, S. Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 862-6142.

14 friday

music

• Also, see listings in "Sound Advice."

THE CHRISTMAS REVELS: See December 13.

'A BACH CHRISTMAS': See December 13. First Congregational Church, Burlington, 8 p.m. $13-25. Info, 800-639-9097.

HOLIDAY POPS: See December 13. North Country Union High School, Newport, 7:30 p.m.

'A CELEBRATION OF CAROLS': Local pianist Alison Cerutti joins the Mad River Chorale in a holiday concert featuring the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's *Messiah*. Warren United Church, 7:30 p.m. $8. Info, 496-2048.

JIM BRICKMAN: The romantic pianist plays up his new album

Simple Things, with a special guest appearance by actor-singer Donny Osmond. Flynn Center, Burlington, 8 p.m. $35-40. Info, 863-5966.

WASSAIL GOSPEL CONCERT: The Montpelier Gospel Choir belts out soulful songs of the season at the Town Hall Theatre, Woodstock, 7:30 p.m. $5. Info, 457-3620.

JIM BRANCA: The former front man for Bloomsbury performs powerful acoustic blues at the Kept Writer Bookshop, St. Albans, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 527-6242.

CHRISTMAS CAROL DINNER: The UVM Choral Union puts music on the menu of a three-course meal. Southwick Ballroom, UVM, Burlington, 6:30 p.m. $40. Register, 863-6719.

'ENSEMBLES IN THE SNOW' CONCERT: Vermont Youth Orchestra members break up into small chamber music groups at the Elley-Long Music Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester, 8 p.m. $5. Info, 655-5030.

'AN ADIRONDACK CHRISTMAS': Dan Duggan, Roy Hurd and Peggy Lynn join forces to celebrate the season with music, song, laughter and cheer — Adirondack style. Lake Placid Center for the Arts, N.Y., 7:30 p.m. $10. Info, 518-523-2512.

dance

SWING DANCE: Deejay and Instructor Brandy Anderson spins swinging tunes for dancers. 20 Crowley St., Burlington. Free lessons, 7-8 p.m. Dance, 8-11 p.m. $5. Info, 862-9033.

BALLROOM DANCE PARTY: Waltz your way through a night of social dancing at this weekly *soirée*. Jazzercize, Williston. Mini-lesson, 7 p.m. $10. Dance only, 7:30 p.m. $5. Info, 862-2207.

drama

'NIGHT FIRES': See December 12, Holley Hall, Bristol, 8 p.m.

'SOUND OF MUSIC': See December 12.

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL': See December 13.

film

'LIAM': This film by Stephen Frears focuses on the life and times of one small boy in Depression-era Liverpool. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury, 7 p.m. $6.50. Info, 748-2600.

art

• See exhibit openings in the art listings.

sport

ROPES COURSE: An evening of games, initiatives and team-building activities lends new meaning to the term "hanging out." Petra Cliffs Climbing Center, Burlington, 6-9 p.m. $15. Register, 657-3872.

TEEN SWIM: Teenagers take the plunge in an indoor pool and escape the blustery weather outside. Greater Burlington YMCA, 8-9:45 p.m. $2. Info, 862-9622.

etc

INTERNATIONAL BOUTIQUE: See December 12.

HANNUKAH CELEBRATION: A potluck kosher dairy dinner follows the services at Beth Jacob Synagogue, Montpelier, 6-9:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 223-0583.

HOLIDAY POTTERY STUDIO SALE: Choose down-to-earth gifts at an open house featuring ceramic works by Claude Lehman. 214 Battery St., Burlington, 4-8 p.m. Free. Info, 660-4792.

15
saturday

music

• Also, see listings in "Sound Advice."

THE CHRISTMAS REVELS: See December 13. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

'A CELEBRATION OF CAROLS': See December 14.

CHRISTMAS CAROL DINNER: See December 14.

HOLIDAY POPS: See December 13. Flynn Center, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. $6-37.

VERMONT YOUTH ORCHESTRA: David Gussler leads the talented young string players in holiday concert at the Elley-Long Music Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester, 1 p.m. $5. Info, 655-5030.

'SING CHOIRS OF ANGELS': The Essex Alliance Church makes the connection between music and merchandise at Barnes & Noble, S. Burlington, 4 p.m. Free. Info, 864-8001.

CHORAL SING: The Vermont Gay Mens Chorus gives voice to "A Vocal Minority" at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Montpelier, 8 p.m. Donations. Info, 633-2389.

KINGDOM COFFEEHOUSE: The Brownington Choir performs old and new carols before a holiday open mike. Vermont Leadership Center, E. Charleston, 7:30 p.m. Donation. Info, 723-6551.

'HOLIDAY NIGHT AT THE OPERA HOUSE': The Lamoille County Players present an evening of music, stories and mirth featuring Rusty DeWees, George Woodard and Nattergack. Hyde Park Opera House, 7 p.m. $20. Info, 888-4507.

dance

HOLIDAY DANCE SOCIAL: Step out for an evening of ballroom, Latin and seasonal swing. Vermont DanceSport Academy, Mann Hall, Trinity College, Burlington. Mini-lesson, 7:30 p.m. Dance, 8-11 p.m. $10. Info, 846-7236.

HOLIDAY SWING DANCE: Wear vintage duds as cool as you are to learn the Lindy — the original style of swing. Memorial Hall, Essex, 7:30 p.m. $5. Info, 878-1993.

SQUARE DANCE: Just do-si-do it. Wear your Western best to Faith Methodist Church, Burlington, 6:30-10:30 p.m. $10. Info, 863-4655.

drama

'NIGHT FIRES': See December 12, Holley Hall, Bristol, 5 & 8 p.m.

'SOUND OF MUSIC': See December 12. 2 & 7 p.m.

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL': See December 13.

'THE LOGGER': Stand-up artist Rusty DeWees "ax" out scenes from his popular "logger" theater series. Borders Café, Church Street Marketplace, Burlington, 2 p.m. Free. Info, 865-2711.

'A COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROL': Actors decked out in Victorian costumes read the entire Dickens classic and join in the caroling after the show. Chapel of the Snows, Stratton Mountain, 7:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 824-5288.

film

'LIAM': See December 14. 7 & 9 p.m.

art

• *See exhibit openings in the art listings.*

words

'FAMILY HERBAL': Herbalist and author Rosemary Gladstar signs her newest book about healing alternatives. Purple Shutter Herbs, Burlington, 1-3 p.m. Free. Info, 865-4372.

kids

FRONTIER DAYS: Kids get a taste of 18th-century frontier life through a program on home remedies at the Ethan Allen Homestead, Burlington, 2 p.m. $5. Info, 865-4556.

'GIFTS FROM NATURE': Natural materials make for unique gifts and wrapping paper at the Green Mountain Audubon Center, Huntington, 10-11:30 a.m. $8. Register, 434-5069.

KIDS CONCERT: Local singer-songwriter Lewis Franco performs "music for parents that kids will love" at Moretown Town Hall, 10:30 a.m. – noon. $5. Info, 496-6115.

sport

HIKE, CROSS-COUNTRY SKI & SNOWSHOE: The Montpelier section of the Green Mountain Club leads a multi-modal venture along the Mount Mansfield Toll Road. Meet at Montpelier High School, 9 a.m. Free. Register, 479-2304.

etc

'INTERNATIONAL BOUTIQUE': See December 12, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

HANNUKAH CELEBRATION: See December 14. Shabbat morning services, 9:30 a.m. Potluck kosher dairy meal, 12:30-2 p.m. Third meal of Shabbat, 4-6 p.m.

HOLIDAY POTTERY STUDIO SALE: See December 14. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MORP: Teens socialize and dance at a "prom spelled backwards" which requires no dates or fancy clothes. Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, 7:30-11:30 p.m. $5. Info, 863-8451.

SINGLES POTLUCK: Bring a dish — and your ideas and interests — to a non-sectarian gathering of "socially active" soloists. First Congregational Church, 38 Winooski Ave., Burlington, 6-8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 864-2130.

PET CARICATURES: Bring out the silly side of your pet with a custom cartoon that benefits Save the Greyhound Dogs. Pet Food Warehouse, S. Burlington, 10 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. $15-20. Register, 862-5514.

'BOTH SIDES NOW': Vermont's vibrant bisexual group meets to share thoughts, feelings, issues and ideas. R.U.1.2? Headquarters, 1 Steele St., Burlington, 6 p.m. Free. Info

Continued on page 6b

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(Sat and Sun also at 1:30)

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Sat 12/15 & Sun 12/16 @ 4 PM
The Gleaners and I (France)
Savoy Theater
26 Main St/Montpelier/229-0509
www.savoytheater.com

Calendar december 12 - 19

Continued from page 5b

879-1147

NATIVITY PROCESSION: Bring your flashlights to a live re-enactment of Christmas Eve in Bethlehem that begins at the Hollow Bridge, N. Ferrisburgh, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 877-2828.

HOLIDAY SHOWCASE: Local artisans show off their talents in a variety of media at the Shallenberger Gallery, Jericho, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Free. Info, 899-4993.

16 sunday

music

• Also, see listings in "Sound Advice."

THE CHRISTMAS REVELS: See December 13, 2 & 7 p.m.

'A CELEBRATION OF CAROLS': See December 14. First Presbyterian Church, Barre, 7:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CAROL DINNER: See December 14.

CHORAL SING: See December 15. The Pumpkin Hill Singers join The Vermont Gay Men's Chorus at North Congregational Church, St. Johnsbury, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 633-2389.

B.B. KING: The blues legend always has an ax to grind. Her name's "Lucille." Flynn Center, Burlington, 7 p.m. $50/65. Info, 863-5966.

NOWELL SING WE CLEAR: Join in on midwinter carols as they were performed for centuries in Britain and North America. See "7 Selects," this issue. Unitarian Church, Montpelier, 7 p.m. $12-35. Info, 229-9408.

JAZZ ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON: Saxophonist Marc Chaicy teams up with the Dan Bruce Jazz at the Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury, 4 p.m. $7. Info, 748-2870.

PIANO RECITAL: Students of local piano teachers Sylvia Parker, Richard Shadroui and Alison Cerutti show off their handiwork at the Barre Opera House, 3 p.m. Free. Info, 476-8188.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION: Local songbird Karen Sutherland sings for her supper — and yours — at the College Street Congregational Church, Burlington, 5-7 p.m. $5. Info, 658-5592.

drama

'NIGHT FIRES': See December 12, Holley Hall, Bristol, 5 p.m.

'SOUND OF MUSIC': See December 12, 2 & 7 p.m.

'A CHRISTMAS CAROL': See December 13, 2 p.m.

'LAUGHING UNDER THE SEA': Jennifer Bloomfield's theater work in progress features Jewish folkdances, Klezmer and jazz music. See "7 Selects," this issue. Flynn Center, Burlington, 4 p.m. Donations. Info, 652-4502.

film

'LIAM': See December 14, 1:30 & 7 p.m.

'MRS. PERKINS' BALL': Adapted from an 1848 farce on Victorian ballroom manners, this hour-long film revolves around a 19th-century dance party. See "7 Selects," this issue. Henry Sheldon Museum, Middlebury, 2-4 p.m. $5. Info, 388-2117.

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THU 12/13 EKIS 9 P.M.
FRI 12/14 MOBIUS 9 P.M.
SAT 12/15 STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS 9 P.M.
SUN 12/16 SURPRIZE! COME MAKE ORNAMENTS WITH THE REVEREND 6-8 P.M.
MON 12/17 GRIPPO 9 P.M.
TUE 12/18 LINK-UP REGGAE TUESDAYS! 9 P.M.
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Club
MeTRoNoMe
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...BUT GET A LOAD OF THIS:
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THURSDAYS
& FRIDAYS
NO COVER!!
(Wait! There's more...)
...WE GOT DRINK SPECIALS THOSE NITES TOO..
THIS WEEK
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VPB
Friday
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KARAOKE KAPERS
Hosted by Bob Bolyard
9pm NC
THURSDAY
TV with Roxie
FRIDAY
Womyn's Dance w/Dinner
DJ EV & Chris Pureka
8pm $8
SHAKTI 11pm $4
SATURDAY
Holiday Party w/Gregory Douglass & DJ Little Martin
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$3 off with a toy for Toys for Tots
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LAR DUGGAN TRIO
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TUESDAY
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Calendar december 12 - 19

art

• See exhibit openings in the art listings.

words

WRITING GROUP: Share ideas, get feedback and try writing exercises at the Kept Writer Bookshop. St. Albans, 2-5 p.m. Free. Info, 527-6242.

kids

FRONTIER DAYS: See December 15.

sport

HIKE, CROSS-COUNTRY SKI & SNOWSHOE: The Montpelier section of the Green Mountain Club negotiates the East Montpelier Recreational Trail. Meet at Montpelier Tennis Courts, Elm Street, 1 p.m. Free. Register, 223-0918.

SINGLES HIKE: The Green Mountain Singles sponsor an outdoor hike with romantic potential. Meet at Staples, Burlington, 9 a.m. Free. Register, 864-1608.

WIND GAP HIKE: The Burlington section of the Green Mountain Club leads a hike starting at Crouching Lion Farm and returning along the Ritter Brook cross-country ski trail. Register, 863-1145.

TEEN BASKETBALL: The indoor court makes hoop dreams come true for teens at the Greater Burlington YMCA, 4-5 p.m. $2. Info, 862-9622.

etc

HOLIDAY SHOWCASE: See December 16.

HANNUKAH CELEBRATION: See December 14. "Bringing Light to Our Relationships" class, 12:30-2 p.m. "Experiencing the Miracle of Hanukkah" class, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

17
monday

music

• Also see listings in "Sound Advice."

CHAMPLAIN ECHOES: Harmonious women compare notes at a weekly rehearsal of the all-female barbershop chorus. The Pines, Dorset St., S. Burlington, 6:45 p.m. Free. Info, 879-3087.

COMMUNITY 'MESSIAH': Get a Handel on the holiday at a sing-in organized by Stowe Performing Arts. See "7 Selects" this issue. Stowe Community Church, 7:30 p.m. $5. Info, 253-7321, ext. 219.

film

'LIAM': See December 14.

art

• See exhibit openings in the art listings.

kids

SONG AND STORYTIME: Threes are company at this singing read-along for babies and toddlers. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

etc

HANNUKAH CELEBRATION: See December 14. "Talmud: Returning Lost Objects" class, 9:30 a.m. - noon. "Meditation: Receiving and Giving Light" class, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

RALLY: Peaceful protestors gather to speak out against Fast Track and the Free Trade Agreement at Burlington City Hall Park, 3 p.m. Free. Info, 863-0571.

GLOBAL JUSTICE MEETING: Political movers meet to discuss the "Vermont Mobilization for Global Justice" at 242 Main Street, Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 658-4674.

NETWORKING GROUP: Employee hopefuls get job leads, connections, skills and support. Career Resource Center, Vermont Department of Employment & Training, Burlington, 1 p.m. Free. Info, 652-0325.

18
tuesday

music

• Also, see listings in "Sound Advice."

GREEN MOUNTAIN CHORUS: The all-male chorus seeks voices to learn barbershop singing and quartetting. S. Burlington High School, 7-9:30 p.m. Free. Info, 860-6465.

BHS MADRIGALS: The Burlington High School student choir perform a diverse musical program for shoppers at Barnes & Noble, S. Burlington, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 864-8001.

CHORUS AND SYMPHONIC BAND CONCERT: Student practice pays — and plays — off in a holiday show with voices and instruments. South Burlington High School, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 652-7059.

drama

'SOUND OF MUSIC': See December 12.

AUDITIONS: Prescription Laughter Theater is looking for volunteer actors to entertain in hospitals, nursing homes and other places in need of comic relief. Salvation Army, 64 Main St., Burlington, 6:30-9 p.m. Free. Info, 899-2717.

film

'LIAM': See December 14.

words

BURLINGTON WRITERS GROUP: Bring pencil, paper and the will to be inspired to this writerly gathering at the Daily Planet, Burlington, 7-9 p.m. Free. Info, 660-8434.

kids

SILK PAINTING: Children wear old clothes to a scarf-painting session that activates imaginations. S. Burlington, 10-11:30 a.m. $11. Register, 660-8302.

'MUSIC WITH ROBERT AND GIGI': Kids sing songs with Robert Resnik and his fiddle-playing friend Gigi Weisman. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11-11:30 a.m. Free. Register, 865-7216.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME: Tykes ages 3 to 5 get an early appreciation for literature. Carpenter Carse Library, Hinesburg, 11 a.m. Free. Info, 482-2878.

STORYTIMES: Youngsters benefit from books read aloud. 1-3 years, 10 a.m. 4-5 years, 1 p.m. S. Burlington Community Library. Free. Info, 652-7080.

sport

WALKING CLUB: See December 13.

etc

HANNUKAH CELEBRATION: See December 14. "Talmud: Returning Lost Objects" class, 9:30 a.m. - noon. "Bringing Wholeness to our Broken World" class, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

INFORMATION SESSION: Community-oriented folks ages 18 to 24 learn about opportunities working with YouthBuild Burlington. 294 North Winooski Ave., Burlington, 4-5 p.m. Free. Info, 651-9890.

TRANSGENDERED MEETING: Meet over pizza at a bimonthly meeting hosted by the Wig Goddess Transgendered North, N. Montpelier, 6-9 p.m. $3 for dinner. Info, 877-767-9049.

BUSINESS MEETING: The Northern Vermont chapter of the Women Business Owners Network gathers to talk about "New Year's Resolutions." Windjammer Restaurant, S. Burlington, noon - 1:30 p.m. $11.30-16.30. Info, 434-4091.

FATHERS AND CHILDREN GROUP: Dads and kids spend quality time together during a weekly meeting at the Family Room. Wheeler Community School, Burlington, 5-7 p.m. Free. Info, 860-4420.

WEEKLY MEDITATION: Learn how focused thought can result in a "calmed center." Spirit Dancer Books, Burlington, 7-8:30 p.m. Donations. Info, 660-8060.

BASIC MEDITATION: Cherokee and Tibetan Buddhist practices help renew the body and spirit. Ratna Shri Tibetan Meditation Center, 12 Hillside Ave., Montpelier, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 453-7318.

Continued on page 8b

PICKLE BARREL NIGHT-CLUB
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GRIPPO FUNK BAND
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BEN & NICK
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Calendar

december 12 - 19

19 wednesday

music

• Also see listings in "Sound Advice."

CENTRAL SCHOOL CHOIR: The 69-member choir of fifth graders offers an in-store concert at Barnes & Noble, S. Burlington, 1 p.m. Free. Info, 864-8001.

OPEN MIKE NIGHT: Acoustic musicians take center stage at the Cambridge Coffeehouse: Dinner's Done, Windridge Bakery, Jeffersonville, 7-9 p.m. Free. Info, 644-5721.

drama

'SOUND OF MUSIC': See December 12.

film

'LIAM': See December 14.

art

• Also see exhibit openings in the art listings.

FIGURE DRAWING: See December 12.

kids

STORYTIME: See December 12.

'TINY TOTS' STORYTIME: See December 12.

STORY AND CRAFT TIME: See December 12.

sport

BASIC AVALANCHE AWARENESS: Learn to detect the conditions that promote avalanches and the equipment needed to travel safely in risky terrain. See "7 Selects," this issue. Green Mountain Club, Waterbury Center, 6:30-9 p.m. $8-12. Info, 244-7037.

etc

HANNUKAH CELEBRATION: See December 14. "Talmud: Returning Lost Objects" class, 9:30 a.m. - noon. "Songs and Stories of Light and Peace" class, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

BURLINGTON CURRENCY: Learn more about the buying power of "Burlington Bread." Radio Bean Coffee House, Burlington, 6-8 p.m. Free. Info, 434-8103.

MACINTOSH COMPUTER USERS MEETING: Appleheads unite for an informative session at the Cedar School, 4066 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 7-9 p.m. Free. Info, 849-6742.

BRANCH OUT BURLINGTON MEETING: Join with others interested in the cultivation and care of urban trees. Department of Parks and Recreation, 645 Pine St., Burlington, 7-9 p.m. Free. Info, 862-8245.

FIBROMYALGIA TALK: Dr. Timothy Farrell demonstrates hands-on techniques to treat painful symptoms without drugs. The Racquet's Edge, Essex Junction, 7-8 p.m. Free. Register, 899-9991.

'LOOK GOOD, FEEL BETTER': Female cancer patients get tips on maintaining their looks while undergoing chemotherapy or radiation. Arnold 2, University Health Center, Burlington, 1 p.m. Free. Register, 655-2000.

Calendar is written by Sarah Badger. Classes are compiled by George Thabault. All submissions are due in writing on the Thursday before publication. SEVEN DAYS edits for space and style. Send to: SEVEN DAYS, P.O. Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402-1164. Or fax 802-865-1015. E-mail: calendar@sevendaysvt.com

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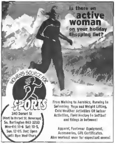

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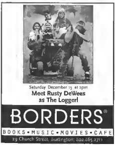

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Classes

teaching a class? call 864.5684 to list it here

acting

ACTING FOR FILM CLASSES: Ongoing professional film-acting classes. Mondays, 6:30 p.m. Montpelier. Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Burlington. Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. Rutland. $200/month. Info, 223-1246 or www.lostnationtheater.org/ATE. *Certified film-acting coach Jack MacDonald leads sessions held in conjunction with the Los Angeles-based Cameron Thor Studio, Edgewood Studios and Lost Nation Theater.*

FLYNNARTS ACTING CLASSES: New classes in auditioning, improv storytelling, musical theater, voice and magic begin January 21. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington. Info, 652-4500 or www.flynncenter.org. *A range of exciting new classes accommodate children, teens and adults.*

aikido

AIKIDO OF CHAMPLAIN VALLEY: Adults, Monday through Friday, 5:45-6:45 p.m. and 7-8:15 p.m. Wednesdays, noon - 1 p.m. Saturdays, 10:15-11:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Children, Tuesdays, 4-5 p.m. and Saturdays, 9-10 a.m. Aikido of Champlain Valley, 17 E. Allen St., Winooski. Info, 654-6959 or www.aikidovt.org. *The school is relocating to 257 Pine Street, Burlington, in January. Call for more info or see Web site.*

AIKIDO OF VERMONT: Ongoing classes Monday through Friday, 6-7 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Saturday, 9-10:30 a.m. Sunday, 10-11:30 a.m. Above Onion River Co-op, 274 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Info, 862-9785. *Practice the art of Aikido in a safe and supportive environment.*

art

ARTISTS' GOALS GROUP: One Tuesday a month, 5:30-8 p.m., Burlington. $20/meeting. Info, 658-7499. *Artists of all mediums meet for a potluck and share work, discussion and establish goals.*

FERRISBURGH ARTISANS GUILD: Ongoing classes in watercolor, welding, stained glass, pottery, border art, Saturday morning clay and more. Info, 877-3668. *Unleash your creativity with top-notch instructors.*

bartending

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craft

POTTERY PAINTING: Ongoing beginner-to-advanced classes. Blue Plate Ceramic Cafe, 119 College St., Burlington. Info, 652-0102. *Learn the basic or fine techniques for painting ceramics to create gifts and other treasures.*

CRAFTS FOR ALL AGES: Classes forming in ceramics, glass, fiber, wood, jewelry, photography and other art forms. Frog Hollow Craft School, 250 Main Street, Burlington. Info, 860-7474. *New classes start in January; call for catalogue or gift certificate.*

dance

BURLINGTON BALLET: Beginners ages 8-12, Fridays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Advanced beginners and intermediates, age 12 and up, Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. - noon. On Track Gym, Union Station, 1 Main Street, Burlington. $9-11 per class. Info, 238-9612. *Local dancer Sophie Becker teaches beginners, advanced-beginners and intermediate ballet dancers.*

FLYNNARTS DANCE CLASSES: New classes in hip-hop, musical theater and modern dance begin January 21. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington. Info, 652-4500 or www.flynncenter.org. *Children, teens and adults earn a two-for-one ticket bonus by registering for the dance class of their choice before December 31.*

drumming

BEGINNING CONGA & DJEMBE: Wednesday, December 19, 7:30 p.m. Taiko Studio, 208 Flynn Avenue, Burlington. Intermediate Conga class Fridays, 4 p.m. New Burlington classes coming in 2002, call for location. $12/class. Info, 658-0658. *Stuart Paton makes instruments available in this upbeat drumming class.*

BEGINNING TAIKO: Mondays, 5:30 p.m. Beginning adult class starts Monday, December 3. Kid class starts in January, 3:30 p.m. Taiko Studio, 208 Flynn Avenue, Burlington. Thursday sessions in Montpelier beginning 2002. Info, 658-0658. *Experience the power of taiko-style drumming.*

fiber

TEXTILE ARTISTS' GOALS GROUP: One Wednesday per month, 5:30-8 p.m., Burlington. $20/meeting. Info, 658-7499. *Surface designers, weavers, quilters and knitters share a potluck and discuss their work and goals.*

fly tying

FLY TYING CLASSES: Six Saturdays or Sundays, starting January 12 or 13. Saturdays, 2-4 p.m. Sundays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Schirmer's Fly Shop, 34 Mills Avenue, S. Burlington. $100, includes materials but not tools. Info, 863-6105. *Experience the satisfaction of catching sport fish on flies that you've tied yourself.*

jewelry

JEWELRY MAKING: Wednesday evenings, 6-9 p.m. Studio3d, 208 Flynn Avenue, Burlington. $145/six. Info, 864-0810 or Studio3d@together.net. *Learn fundamental jewelry-making techniques to create items you'll be proud to wear.*

language

ITALIAN: Group and individual instruction, beginner to advanced, all ages. Middlebury area. Prices vary. Info, 545-2676. *Immerse yourself in Italian to get ready for a trip abroad, or to better enjoy the country's music, art and cuisine.*

ESL: Ongoing small group classes, beginners to intermediates. Vermont Adult Learning, Sloane Hall, Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. Free. Info, 654-8677. *Improve your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in English as a second language.*

FRENCH: 2002 sessions begin January 21 through May 30, for adults and children, including daytime homeschoolers' courses. Jericho. Prices vary. Info, 899-4389 or ggp@together.net. *Personalize your language learning with a combination of group and individual lessons.*

martial arts

WING CHUN KUNG FU: Fridays, 6 p.m. Martial Way Self-Defense Center, 25 Raymond Road, Colchester. First class free. Info, 893-8893. *This simple and practical martial art was created by a woman and requires no special strength or size.*

ARNIS: Saturdays, 11:15 a.m. Martial Way Self-Defense Center, 25 Raymond Road, Colchester. First class free. Info, 893-8893. *This Filipino discipline combines the fluid movements of the arnis stick with graceful and dynamic footwork.*

TAEKWONDO: Beginning and advanced classes Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 4:30-8:30 p.m. Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Blue Wave TaeKwonDo School, 182 Main Street, Burlington. Prices vary. Info, 658-3359 or info@bluewavetkd.com. *Fifth-degree black belt and former national team member Gordon W. White teaches the martial art and Olympic sport of TaeKwonDo.*

MOY YAT VING TSUN KUNG FU: Ongoing classes in Waitsfield, register now for Burlington classes beginning in January. All ages and levels. Info, 496-4661, 425-6251 for Burlington classes, or www.kungfuvideos.com. *Learn applicable fighting techniques while developing discipline and strength. The foundation principles of this ancient art are relaxation, centerline and efficiency of motion.*

meditation

WEEKLY MEDITATION & DISCUSSION: Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Spirit Dancer Books & Gifts, 5 Winooski Avenue, Burlington. Donations. Info, 660-8060. *The Green Mountain Learning Center sponsors this weekly session.*

MONTPELIER MEDITATION: Ongoing Tuesdays, 6-7:45 p.m. Community Room, Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier. Info, 229-4787. *Sit together for Insight or Vipassana meditation sessions.*

"THE WAY OF THE SUFI": Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. S. Burlington. Free. Info, 658-2447. *This Sufi-style meditation incorporates breath, sound and movement.*

MEDITATION: Sundays, 9 a.m. - noon. Shambhala Center, 187 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Free. Info, 658-6795. *Instructors teach non-sectarian and Tibetan Buddhist meditations.*

GUIDED MEDITATION: Sundays, 10:30 a.m. The Shelburne Athletic Club, Shelburne Commons. Free. Info, 985-2229. *Practice guided meditations for relaxation and focus.*

music

FLYNNARTS MUSIC CLASSES: New classes in jazz, theater songs, musical theater and "junk music" begin January 21. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington. Info, 652-4500 or www.flynncenter.org. *Choose from an exciting range of music classes for children, teens and adults.*

photography

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS: Classes for all levels start January 2, with darkroom for use or rent. Center for Photographic Studies, Barre. Prices vary. Info, 479-4127. *Get clicking with photo classes and workshops to improve composition, exposure and printmaking.*

pottery

CLAY CLASSES FOR ALL AGES: New classes in clay and ceramics begin in January. Frog Hollow Craft School, 250 Main Street, Burlington. Info, 860-7474. *Call for catalogue or gift certificate information.*

reiki

REIKI CLINIC: Thursday, December 13, 6:30-9 p.m. Pathways to Well Being, Burlington. Register, 860-4849. *Experience gentle relaxation for stress and pain relief.*

self-defense

BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU AND CARDIOBOXING: Ongoing classes Monday through Saturday for men, women and children. Vermont Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Academy, 4 Howard St., Burlington. Prices vary. Info, 660-4072. *Escape fear with an integrated self-defense system based on technique, not size, strength or speed.*

spirit

WINTER SOLSTICE RITUAL: Saturday, December 15, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Spirit Dancer Books & Gifts, Burlington. $9. Info, 660-8060. *Bring a small gift to a discussion of the meaning of the solstice.*

sports

WINTER CAMPING WORKSHOP: Saturday, December 15, 10 a.m. to Sunday, December 16, 2 p.m. Clearwater Sports, Route 100, Waitsfield. Info, 496-2708 or clearwatersports@madriver.com. *Broaden the scope of your winter explorations during a two-day overnight clinic.*

SPINNING TO HEALTH: Ongoing daily classes. Chain Reaction, One Lawson Lane, Burlington. First ride free. Info, 657-3228. *Pedal your way to fitness in a diverse, non-competitive environment.*

SNOWSHOE DEMO DAY: Thursday, December 27, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Clearwater Sports, Route 100, Waitsfield. Free. Info, 496-2708 or clearwatersports.com. *Experience the many styles of snowshoeing and try out models from Tubbs, MSR, Sherpa and other snowshoe makers.*

support groups

Please see support group listings in the WELLNESS DIRECTORY in the classified section.

tai chi

TAI CHI FOR BEGINNERS: Mondays, 7-8 p.m. and Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 a.m. Shelburne Athletic Club, Shelburne. $10/each or $90/10-class card. Info, 651-7575. *Session leader Kristen Borquist is a seventh-year student of local expert Bob Boyd.*

women

TAKING CHARGE: Thursdays, January 10 through February 13, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Palmer and Associates, Burlington. Info, 863-4478. *Learn practical ways to reach your goals and dreams in this experiential action workshop.*

yoga

BRISTOL YOGA: Ongoing Astanga yoga classes. Sundays, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-7 p.m. Beginner sessions Sundays, 6-7 p.m. Old High School, Bristol. Info, 482-5547. *This classical form of yoga simultaneously works balance, strength and flexibility in a hot environment to steady the mind, strengthen the body and free the soul.*

YOGA VERMONT: Astanga classes every day. Jivamukti, Kripalu, Iyengar, Pre-natal, kids & senior classes weekly. Chace Mill, Burlington. Info, 660-9718 or www.yogavermont.com. *Enjoy a range of yoga choices, including astanga-style "power" yoga classes that offer sweaty fun for all levels of experience.*

BEECHER HILL YOGA: Ongoing day and evening classes or private instruction and yoga therapy. Hinesburg. Info, 482-3191 or www.downstreetmagazine.com/beecherhillyoga. *Beecher Hill Yoga offers classes in Integrative Yoga, Yoga for Posture & Alignment, Therapeutic Yoga and Yoga-based Stress Reduction.*

BIKRAM YOGA: Ongoing daily classes for all levels. 257 Pine Street, Burlington. Info, 651-8979. *A heated studio facilitates deep stretching and detoxifying.*

MONDAY/WEDNESDAY YOGA: Ongoing Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. or Wednesdays, 7-8 a.m. The Awakening Center, Shelburne. $90/10 weeks or $12

Classes

earth. Info, 425-4710 www.earthislandexpeditions.org. *Stretch your mind and body at a convenient Shelburne Village location.*

YOGADANCE (TM) WORKSHOP: Friday, December 14, 7-9 p.m. and Saturday, December 15, 9 a.m. - noon. Faith United Methodist Church, S. Burlington. $50 for both days. Info, 229-3923. *"YogaDance" is a sacred, funky, soulful fusion of body, breath and beat using yoga postures and rhythmic dance for students and teachers of all levels.*

DAYLONG YOGA RETREAT: Saturday, December 15, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Yurt Sanctuary, Ten Stones Community, Charlotte. Register, 425-4710 or info@earthislandexpeditions.org. *Engage in yoga and meditation practices, enjoy sanctuary in nature and delight in a catered organic vegetarian lunch.*

BURLINGTON YOGA: Ongoing daily classes, 156 St. Paul Street, Burlington. Prices vary. Info, 658-YOGA (9642). *Classes are designed to meet and challenge all students at any level.* ⑦

HOLIDAY DEADLINES:
Class listings for the Dec. 19 & 26 issues must be received by Thursday, Dec. 13 at 5 p.m. Deadline for Jan. 9, 2002 issue is Thursday, Jan. 3 at 5 p.m.

Class listings are $15 per week or $40 for four weeks. All class listings are subject to editing for space and style. Send info with check or complete credit card information, including exact name on card, to: Classes, SEVEN DAYS, P.O. Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402-1164. E-mail: calendar@sevendaysvt.com. Fax: 865-1015.

Thank you!

brm design + metalworks

holiday sale
december 15, 10-6 pm
purchase firsts, secondz, prototypes, one-of-a-kinds, and get your cosmic-groove thing adjusted (see studio for details).

terrestrial location: brm 180 flynn ave burlington vt 05401, west off pine st. turn rt. after the rr tracks. universal gifts, spatial prices. 863-9553. brmdesign.com

INTERESTING PEOPLE

teach interesting courses...

- Enemies without, Monsters Within. Paranoia in 50's Creature Feature and Alien Invasion films
- Acting and Improvisation
- Experimental Film Production
- Digital Wave: The Digital Filmmaking Revolution
- Burlington in Ireland: An Irish Folk Experience
- Introduction to Screenwriting
- City in History
- Social Ecology: The Living Machine
- Introduction to World Cinema
- Ties that Bind: American Family Dynamics in Historical Context
- Photography: Black and White
- Oriental Medical Principles
- Art Therapy: Experiential
- Mind-Body Medicine
- Nonfiction Film
- Psychology of Dreaming
- Irish Films and Irish Filmmakers
- Non-Ordinary States of Consciousness
- Writing your Spiritual Autobiography
- 35mm Production Workshop

Burlington College

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will be signing her newest title

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Saturday, December 15, 1-3pm

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Holiday Hours. Monday-Saturday 10-6, Sunday 12-5

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7D classifieds

INFO:

- EMPLOYMENT & BUSINESS OPP. LINE ADS: 75¢ a word.
- LEGALS: Starting at 35¢ a word.
- FOR RENT LINE ADS: 25 words for $10. Over 25: 50¢/word.
- ALL OTHER LINE ADS: 25 words for $7. Over 25: 30¢/word.
- DISPLAY ADS: $17.00/col. inch.
- ADULT ADS: $40/col. inch

Group buys for display ads are available in regional papers in VT. Call for details. All line ads must be prepaid. We take VISA, MASTERCARD & cash, of course.

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

FT, 7 am - 3:30 pm w/some weekend hours, need experience in all areas of general maintenance & repair. Must be self motivated, have clean driving record & enjoy working with public.

Good wages & benefits offered.

Apply to:
Best Western Hotel
1076 Williston Road
So. Burlington

WINDJAMMER

Salon Coordinator/Receptionist

30-35 hrs. per week. Duties include customer service, computer, answering phones, scheduling appointments and handling money. Please apply in person at

orbit hair design
350 dorset street, south burlington

ORBIT

NORWICH UNIVERSITY

STUDENT SERVICE ASSISTANT

Work with people in a fast paced, multi-task front desk setting, answering questions and problem solving about student registration and records. Some data entry, correspondence and data back-up required. Qualifications: High school diploma and one to three years office experience, attention to detail and familiarity with standard office software required.

Send resume and cover letter to: Student Service Specialist Search, Human Resources, Norwich University, 158 Harmon Drive, Northfield, VT 05663 or via email to jobs@norwich.edu

Norwich is an Equal Opportunity Employer offering a comprehensive benefit package that includes medical and dental coverage, group life and long term disability insurance, flexible spending accounts for health and dependent care, a retirement annuity program and tuition scholarships for employees and their family members.

Make A Difference For The Environment

Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club seeks a part-time outreach coordinator, to manage membership involvement in policy work and advocacy. Experience with computer and internet resources and tools, understanding of environmental issues and political/legislative process, and enthusiasm for involving member volunteers are all a plus. This is a temporary contract position.

Deadline, December 19

E-mail vermont.chapter@sierraclub.org

For a complete job description

Dance Teacher

Essex High School

Temporary position available to teach one class of Dance second semester (1st block). Proven experience and ability to teach Dance required. Vermont professional educator's license with a Dance or Physical Education endorsement preferred. Other VT teaching endorsements also considered. For consideration, please send letter, resume, copy of your VT Educator's license (or proof of license eligibility), and three letters of reference to the address below. Deadline: Open until filled. EOE

Chittenden Central Supervisory Union
Attn.: Human Resources
21 New England Drive
Essex Jct., VT 05452

Washington Village School
WASHINGTON, VT

Certified Teacher Opening

Washington Village School has a current opening for multi-age 5/8 teacher to work collaboratively in the classroom for the remainder of this 2001-2002 school year. The position offers three options of flexibility to select from in serving the school's needs.

If interested please contact or fax a letter of interest and current resume to:

Teresa Romasco, Principal
Washington Village School
Washington, VT 05675
Phone (802) 883-5421
Fax (802) 883-5411
email tromasco@washington.k12.vt.us

NORTHWESTERN COUNSELING

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKER

The Assertive Community Treatment team seeks a dedicated, creative, problem solver to provide support services to individuals with psychiatric disabilities who demonstrate challenging behaviors and difficulty maintaining community tenure. Responsibilities include assistance with relapse prevention, crisis support, skill teaching, supportive counseling, and advocacy. Must be able to work in a team environment. Associate's degree in Human Services field and relevant experience required. Please send letter of interest and resume to:

HR Department
NCSS Inc
107 Fisher Pond Rd
St. Albans, VT 05478
No phone calls please. EOE.

Vermont
Center for
Independent
Living

Development & Community Relations Coordinator

Vermont Center for Independent Living
37.5 hours per week/ Montpelier Office

Statewide disability rights organization is seeking an individual to manage development & community relations activities. Duties will include: grant management, outreach & public relations activities, fundraising & supervision of staff. Must have strong administrative, management, organizational, fundraising, problem solving, communication & interpersonal skills. Personal experience with a disability and knowledge of ASL helpful. Send resume and cover letter by December 14, 2001 to: Personnel Coordinator, Vermont Center for Independent Living, 11 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

VCIL is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. We provide reasonable accommodations in the recruitment and employment of persons with disabilities.

WILDLANDS PROJECT

Grantwriter/Development Associate

The Wildlands Project, a non-profit conservation organization and publisher of *Wild Earth* journal, is seeking a highly motivated and efficient individual to join its development team. The primary responsibilities of the Grantwriter/ Development Associate will be to write and edit all development materials including grant proposals, reports, updates, appeals, and letters and to assist with other fundraising projects. Minimum of 2-3 years work experience in fundraising and/or outreach/communication. Ability to write clearly and compellingly, attention to detail and appreciation of wild Nature are requirements for this full-time position.

Send resume, cover letter, references, two writing samples (one must be development related), or inquiries by 12/21/01 to:

Lina Miller
Wildlands Project
PO Box 455
Richmond, VT 05477
Email: lina@wildlandsproject.org

MAINTENANCE POSITION

LUMBER MILL

Sawmills, Lumber Sorters Dry Kilns & Planers
Looking For qualified individual to join 4 person maintenance group for:

- Preventive maintenance
- Machinery & equipment repairs
- Design & fabricate mill machinery

Welding & Torch Cutting Skills Required

Electrical Skills & Computer/PLC exp. helpful

Successful applicant to be a self starter looking for responsibility, and is safety oriented.
401 (k) health insurance
Send resumé. For questions call:
Ken or Dave Johnson (802) 453-3432

The A. Johnson Co.
995 South 116 RD • Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-4884

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE TEAM ATTORREY

The Lamoille County State's Attorney's office seeks an attorney committed to combating domestic and sexual violence to assist the Lamoille Domestic Violence Response Team. The attorney will work as a deputy state's attorney prosecuting primarily domestic and sexual assault cases in Lamoille County. This is a contract position for a term of one year, which may be renewed if funding permits. Applicants must be licensed to practice in Vermont, and should have significant litigation experience. Compensation is an hourly rate for a minimum of 16 hours per week. Some scheduling flexibility is required. An equal opportunity employer

Send resume by January 2 2001 to:

Lamoille County State s Attorney
PO Box 38
Hyde Park, VT 05655

RURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Individual Student Assistant Needed. To work with a young child with special needs in Burlington Essential Early Education Program. Experience working with young children preferred. 26 hours a week position, with opportunity to extend hours an additional 17.5 hours a week in the student's childcare program. Position to begin January 2, 2002

*** Call 864-8463 for more information**

Para-educator positions Available with varied hours depending on the needs of the school and students

Clerical Assistant: Business office, 20 hours per week

.8 FTE Science Teacher Horizons Program

Please send resume, cover letter three letters of reference, transcripts and licensure to:

Burlington Public Schools
Human Resources Office
150 Colchester Avenue
Burlington, VT 05401

Minorities are encouraged to apply. EOE

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Human Resources Manager

Gardener's Supply Company, an employee owned company, is America's #1 source of innovative gardening products. Known for our unique, open and participatory work environment, we are looking for a Human Resources Manager to be a vital participant in our growth and development. The HR Manager acts as the voice and keeper of our company culture. S/he oversees the administration of HR policies and programs, including benefits, salary administration, recruitment, training, organizational development and workers' compensation. S/he translates the corporate strategic business plan into HR strategic and operational plans.

Our ideal candidate has a BA/BS degree and 5+ years experience in Human Resources (or equivalent), supervisory experience; exceptional communication and interpersonal skills, and demonstrated leadership ability. Experience with training/OD, strategic planning, and/or gardening a big plus.

Send resumé with cover letter to Randee
128 Intervale Road, Burlington, Vermont 05401
or via e-mail: randeeg@gardeners.com

GARDENER'S
SUPPLY COMPANY
www.gardeners.com

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

SEVEN DAYS

Making sense of the fine print.

NORTHWESTERN COUNSELING

Recovery Support Worker

Visions Recovery and Resource Center seeks a dynamic team player for recovery-based community mental health program. Will provide assistance to people with psychiatric illness by way of group, individual, family and community support. Program goals focus on developing self care, vocational, recreational, and social skills to improve overall quality of life. Previous experience and/or training will be considered.
If interested in this fun, exciting, cutting-edge position, please send letter of interest and resume to:

NCSS Inc
HR Dept
107 Fisher Pond Rd.
St. Albans, VT 05478
No phone calls please. E.O.E.

PART-TIME OPERATIONS CLERK
ALL CYCLE WASTE, INC.

25 HOURS PER WEEK

This important position involves assisting company dispatcher and operations department in the day-to-day administrative duties. Includes data-entry, driver check in, radio communications, filing, organizing daily route sheets, strong computer and data entry skills a must.

An aggressive, assertive personality essential.
Starting rates $10.50/hr
Summers will be more with a potential for full time.

Call (802) 864 5618,
or stop by our offices at
228 Avenue B, Williston, Vermont.

Fletcher Allen
HEALTH CARE

Attention Students!

Front Desk Representatives
Part-Time

Schedule follow-up appointments for patients, perform checkout duties by entering charges and collecting fees. Perform daily reconciliation of charges and cash batches within a clinical site. Customer service, cash collection, data entry skills required, previous experience in a medical environment helpful.
Posting #01 1321

Check out additional opportunities on our website at www.fahc.org, where you can apply on-line. Or stop by our Employment Office at 150 Colchester Avenue in Burlington and complete an application.

Phone: 847-2825

Fletcher Allen is a smoke-free workplace.

TUTORS

Full-time, school year position available to implement and assist in developing therapeutic programs which provide intensive, remedial tutoring services, focused on integrating severely emotionally and behaviorally challenged students into the classroom at our Summit Street Elementary School located in Essex Junction. Strong technical knowledge and skills in reality therapy, various counseling techniques, behavior management, crisis intervention, detecting suicidal ideation, socialization strategies, and nonaversive restraint techniques required. Position pays $12.44/hour with an excellent benefits package available. For additional information and qualifications, please visit our website at www.ccsu.k12.vt.us (click on Employment Opportunities). **Half-time position also available.** For consideration, please send letter and resume to the address below.

Chittenden Central Supervisory Union
Attn: Human Resources
21 New England Drive
Essex Jct., VT 05452

Customer Service & Sales Support Coordinator

Help our team delight customers and function smoothly together. Dynamic Business Solutions is a growing, fast paced, value-added reseller and service provider of accounting and manufacturing software. The ideal candidate is MS Office competent. Contact management software or accounting software experience a plus.

See www.d-b-s.com/employment/ for details.

EOE

SEVENDAYSVT.com
vermont's alternative webweekly

Vermont Land Trust

Interested in working for a successful non-profit, helping to conserve Vermont's productive landscape? We are seeking candidates with knowledge of and commitment to conservation for the following positions:

Regional Director, Champlain Valley (Richmond Office): Responsible for all phases of land conservation work including identifying and assessing potential land conservation projects, contacting landowners & town officials, preparing funding applications, and developing and executing conservation strategies. Strong emphasis on working with communities, landowners and volunteers to plan & implement non-farm projects primarily. Position requires working as a member of a six-person team, including supervision of co-workers. Bachelor's in natural sciences, forestry or other appropriate discipline with advanced degree in resource management, environmental science, regional planning, or other relevant field desirable. Five or more years experience in real estate, resource planning or environmental background, and knowledge of public and private land conservation techniques required. Base salary of $35,500, adjusted for experience.

Conservation Project Staff, Southwest Vermont: Full-time staffer needed to carry out our land conservation efforts in the Southwest Region. Depending on education, skill, experience and training, the project staff will either direct or assist in all phases of land conservation work, including identifying and assessing potential land conservation projects, contacting landowners and town officials, preparing funding applications, and developing & executing conservation strategies. Bachelor's in natural sciences, forestry or other appropriate discipline required, with advanced degree in resource management, environmental science, regional planning, or other relevant field desirable. Experience in real estate, resource planning or environmental background, and some knowledge of public and private land conservation techniques preferred. Salary to be determined based on candidate experience. Office location in VLT's Southwest Region, with exact location to be determined.

In addition to competitive salary, we offer a generous benefits package. If you are a detail and systems-oriented individual with initiative and self-direction, we would like to speak with you. To apply for either position, send resume and cover letter by **December 14, 2001** to:

Search Committee
Vermont Land Trust
8 Bailey Avenue
Montpelier, VT 05602
For more information and job descriptions
please visit **www.vlt.org**

Direct Store Delivery Driver
ME & NH

We have a newly created position available due to the dynamic growth of our business. This position will require extensive travel throughout New Hampshire and Maine to drive DSD delivery truck. The position includes unloading, checking in and merchandising products. Three overnight trips will be required per week. This will be a full time, salaried position.

The successful candidate must be at least 21 years of age, neat in appearance, and a team player. Candidates must possess a valid Class A CDL with proof of a clean driving record. Must be in excellent physical condition to continually lift cases of Cabot products weighing 40+ lbs. each. A DOT physical examination will be required. Demonstrate the ability to drive a 24-foot box truck with 10-speed transmission and other trucks as required. Basic reading, writing, and math skills are essential for this position.

Cabot offers a competitive starting wage and excellent benefits package.
Please send resume and cover letter to:

Human Resources Department
Cabot Creamery
One Home Farm Way
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone: (802) 229 9361 X2101
Fax. (802) 563-2263
E-mail: radams@cabotcheese.com
Or apply in person at: 2870 Main Street, Cabot, Vermont

Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

The Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault announces position openings as follows. Please send cover letter and résumé to **Vermont Network, P.O. Box 405, Montpelier VT 05601**, or by e-mail to vtnetwork@vtnetwork.org, by January 10, 2002. Full-time positions begin at $30,000 plus health and retirement benefits; half time at $15,000 with pro-rated health and retirement benefits.

Sexual Violence Specialist
This is a full time salaried position. The Sexual Violence Specialist will coordinate the provision of technical support to member programs and the Sexual Violence Task Force, coordinate advocacy projects, participate in public policy and public education development, and serve as a trainer on sexual violence issues for the network.

The Sexual Violence Specialist will have any combinations of education and experience equal to a BA or BS in one of the human services or relevant fields and/or four years volunteer or professional specialized experience working in sexual violence, extensive experience in the area of sexual and/or domestic violence including some experience in the provision of direct services, strong writing and verbal skills and the ability to interact and coordinate successfully with diverse groups and individuals. Requires regular statewide travel and flexible hours.

Training Specialist
This is a full-time salaried position. The Training Specialist will coordinate the design, development, logistics and delivery of network training, create and implement an annual training plan, coordinate the development and dissemination of training materials and related activities.

The Training Specialist will have any combination of education and experience equal to a BA or BS in one of the human services or relevant fields and/or four years volunteer or professional specialized experience in an appropriate area, extensive knowledge of sexual and/or domestic violence, extensive experience in training design and delivery, strong writing and verbal skills and the ability to interact and coordinate successfully with diverse groups and individuals. Requires regular statewide travel and flexible hours.

Training Administrative Specialist
A part time, 20 hours per week position. The Training Administrative Specialist will provide administrative and technical support to the Network training team and other network activities as needed. Qualifications are any combination of education and professional specialized experience equal to two years in administration, computer or clerical work, excellent office and organizational skills, experience, knowledge or the ability to learn basic computer and web maintenance skills, and strong writing and verbal skills. Requires regular statewide travel.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDISON COUNTY COMMUNITY TRUST

Addison County Community Trust is a non-profit organization with more than a decade of service in affordable housing development and land conservation. The Trust is seeking a new executive director to lead an experienced staff of three from its headquarters in Middlebury. The successful candidate will have a strong background in housing development, and experience in housing management, grant writing, and organizational skills management.

The director is responsible for overall management and administration of the corporation, including staff supervision and development, project development, financial management and public relations. The Trust offers a salary of $35,000 to $40,000 plus health and vacation benefits, depending on the qualifications and experience of the successful applicant.

Letter of application and resume will be accepted through January 7, 2002. References are required. An information packet with complete job description and highlights of the work of the Trust may be obtained by calling 802 388 9650

Please direct applications and resumes to

Search Committee
Addison County Community Trust
PO Box 056
Middlebury, VT 05753

Addison County Community Trust

City Market
Onion River Co-op

IS HAVING A JOB FAIR!

January 7, 2002 10am-6pm at
82 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington

- Competitive pay!
- Hiring for 40+ positions
- Flexible hours some evenings & weekends
- Benefits for anyone working over 20 hours per week
- Grocery store experience preferred, training is provided

More details to be posted soon in the current store at 274 N. Winooski Ave. If you have any questions, please call Gracie (ext. 228) or Kate (ext. 128) in the Human Resources Dept.

Current openings:

- **Store Assistants**
- **Cheese Coordinator**
- **Meat & Seafood Manager**
- **Kitchen Manager**
- **Deli Service Supervisor**

Résumés and applications being accepted at:
274 N. Winooski Ave.

802.863.3659

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Per Diem

New Rates

RNs	**$30 hr**
LPNs	**$25 hr**

8, 12, or 16 hour shifts available

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Call 658 4200
[illegible]

Burlington
Health and Rehabilitation C
300 Pearl St. Burlington

Learning Disabilities Specialist

Responsible for reading and interpretation of psycho-educational assessments and the delivery of direct tutoring services to learners requesting support assistance. Securing and receiving diagnostic materials, certifying completion of documentation, determining appropriate needs for accommodation, writing educational profiles of accommodation, reviewing educational plans with adult learners, providing transitional services, liaison with faculty and assuring accuracy in creating university policy handbooks. Qualifications include Bachelors degree required (Masters preferred) and prior experience on the high school or university level with training in reading and interrupting IEP, IDEA, 504, psycho-educational batteries and other forms of assessment documentation. This position offers a flexible schedule on a quarter-time (approximately 10 hours per week) assignment. Only statutory benefits are provided with this appointment

Submit a letter of application, resume, three references and salary requirements. The position is opened until filled:

Learning Disabilities Specialist Search
Human Resources Office
Vermont College
36 College Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Vermont College of the Union Institute & University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

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- ■ *Hands-on Training*
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www.bartendingschool.com

Champlain Valley Head Start

Champlain Valley Head Start seeks substitutes for classrooms at Burlington Boys and Girls Club, Ira Allen and Winooski JFK. This is a fun and rewarding opportunity to work with young children. Pay rate is 8.00 an hour. Please contact Heidi LeBlate at 651-4180 for more information

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Restaurant Professional

to help manage my restaurant. Must have experience, a love of food and an appreciation for quality service. Salary plus tip income. 40-45 hours per week. Call Phi 802-524-1189 before noon to arrange interview

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SMOKERS NEEDED

The UNIVERSITY of VERMONT

Healthy Men and Women, 18-55, for Cigarette Smoking Study

- Sessions are 3.5 hours per day Monday through Friday
- Morning, Afternoon, or Evening Sessions Available
- Up to 6-8 weeks

Compensation to $1500 or more ($15/hour)

Please call 656-9619

TWIN OAKS

Kids & Fitness

Infant Teacher

Seeking FT Assistant teacher, experience a must, competitive pay, health club membership and more. Please call Kim McCree 658-0080

Converse Home

Would you like to work in a relaxing home-like atmosphere in an elegant retirement home in downtown Burlington?

Activities Coordinator

Energetic, organized individual with good communication skills. Must be able to work independently. Experience with elderly preferred. If interested, contact Anita at 862-0401

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER / MENTOR

Search reopened for Shared Living Provider and Mentor for engaging and challenging 18 year old male who enjoys computers, swimming, and has a good sense of humor. Ideal candidate would have knowledge/experience with ODD and PDD spectrum disabilities and would not be otherwise employed outside the home. Substantial stipend. Send confidential reply and references to:

NCSS
HR Dept/NB
107 Fisher Pond Rd.
St. Albans, VT 05478
No phone calls please

Mountain Pride Media

ART DIRECTOR

Mountain Pride Media has an immediate opening for Art Director of *Out In The Mountains*. Candidates must have demonstrated skills in Graphic Art Layout and Design, have a working knowledge of QuarkXPress and similar Page Layout/Desktop Publishing Software, be able to communicate with *OITM* customers regarding Ad Design, be able to meet *OITM* Production Schedule requirements, and be able to work efficiently with minimal supervision.

This part-time salaried position requires approximately 60 hours per month, the majority of which will be spent in our Richmond, Vermont office during production week (the 7 days prior to the last Thursday of each month).

For more info, leave a message at (802) 454-5237 or e-mail personnel@mountainpridemedia.org

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Vélo Cyclables du Lac Champlain
Lake Champlain Bikeways

Lake Champlain Bikeways Program Director

Opportunity for bright and energetic person to manage and grow Lake Champlain Bikeways Inc. Duties include: program administration, fund raising, project development, marketing and outreach activities. Enthusiasm for bicycling desired. A contractual position: 20 hours/week. Offices available in Burlington, VT or Crown Point, NY.

Resume and writing sample by 1/4/02 to:
LCB Search Committee
c/o Lake Champlain Visitors Center
814 Bridge Road
Crown Point, NY 12928
Questions: suzanne@lakechamplainregion.com

Natural Resource Specialist

A regional land trust with a 30 year history of buying and managing urban natural areas seeks an experienced professional to provide technical assistance on resource protection issues, as well as coordinating wildlife projects with volunteers and other agencies. Ideal candidate will have 2+ years of similar experience. Computer skills, grant writing and an advanced degree in a related field required. 35-40 hours per week. Job description may be requested by phone 863-5744, fax 865-0647, or e-mail wvpd@together.net. Send resumes with salary requirements and list of references to:

Winooski Valley Park District
Ethan Allen Homestead
Burlington, VT 05401

ADVOCATES WANTED

Two motivated, self-directed people wanted to provide information, support, advocacy and referrals to survivors of same-sex domestic and sexual violence in a new LGBTQ organization. Experience in victim advocacy, direct services and/or counseling necessary. Knowledge about domestic and/or sexual violence, experience working with the LGBTQ community, and a B.A. in human service field or equivalent experience required. Both positions are 20 hours/week and pay $12/hour with full benefits. Please send resume and cover letter by January 10th to:

SafeSpace
P.O. Box 158
Burlington, VT 05402
ssdsvtf@yahoo.com

Holiday Inn

HOSPITALITY

Waitstaff needed for a.m. shift in Harper's Restaurant

Please contact Brian or Bill at 863-6363

Holiday Inn
1068 Williston Rd.
South Burlington

CHARLOTTE CENTRAL SCHOOL

Special Education Middle Level Assistant.
Person needed to work with a small group of students
hours are 8:00 a.m. 3:15 p.m. M F
Call Fran Williams for more information at 425-2771

Office/Classroom Assistant.
Hours are 7 45 a.m – 3 15 p.m. M F.
Call Emily at 425-2771 for more information.

CAREGIVER

Gentle fun-loving 24 yr old man with developmental disabilities looking for individual or couple to provide live-in support in his new fully accessible furnished apartment in Essex Junction He enjoys community activities and has a supported working situation out of the home for 6 hours each weekday

Qualifications Dependability gentleness patience honesty excellent interpersonal skills and a sense of humor

Most important is a strong belief that all persons have the right to participate in work and community life and be treated with dignity and respect Must have a reliable and safe car and an excellent driving record Generous tax-free compensation low expenses

Please contact
Chris Gillespie
at 652-2165

SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR/ DISPATCHER (Part-time) WEEKEND/NIGHTS

Applications are invited for a permanent part time position on Friday and Saturday nights (additional substitute hours also available), dispatching radio calls and operating the College switchboard Applicants must be able to handle switchboard emergency fire, rescue and security calls efficiently and be able to deal tactfully and calmly with a wide variety of callers including those reporting emergency situations Ability to document calls provide information and service and appropriately represent the College to callers is required Dispatch/switchboard experience desirable but we will provide training for qualified, motivated and dependable employee Pro rated sick and vacation leave Send resume as soon as possible to the

Office of Human Resources
Saint Michael's College
One Winooski Park
Colchester, VT 05439
AA/EOE

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MICHAEL'S
COLLEGE

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- Experience
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Email:
sandbarinn@aol.com
or apply in person at:

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Hourly Rate $10 & Benefits

Will facilitate customer check-in and boarding. Min. 2 years Customer service/Sales experience required, 18, able to lift 75-100lbs. Legally authorized to work in the USA, neat and professional appearance. HS diploma/GED, computer literate, able to read, write and speak English. Bilingual also a plus. Flexible schedule required. Work weekends/holidays. Must pass 10 year security background check/drug test.

jetBlue AIRWAYS

Apply at www.jetblue.com
Or send to: resume@jetblue.com
Or fax resume to E. McCune at:
(718) 286-4110
EOE M/F D/V

Custodian (part-time)

Gardener's Supply Company an employee owned company is looking for a part time Custodian to help keep our Intervale location looking great! The shift is M/T/W 1-9 30pm and the position includes our great benefits package (medical dental, stock ownership profit sharing etc) Duties include routine cleaning and maintenance vacuuming, scheduling and fulfilling requests Our ideal candidate a very energetic person with strong initiative flexibility a remarkable eye for detail and 2+ years of custodial experience

Interested? Send resumé with cover letter to Randee or come in and fill out an application at.
128 Intervale Road Burlington Vermont 05401
or via e-mail randeeg@gardeners.com

GARDENER'S SUPPLY COMPANY
www.gardeners.com

Washington Village School
WASHINGTON, VT

School Nurse and/or LPN Position

Washington Village School has a current opening for a part-time School Nurse and/or part-time LPN. The position offers flexibility in both days and hours. Additionally extra days/hours are available at Orange Center School to provide the same School Nurse services.

If interested please contact or fax a letter of interest and current resume to

Teresa Romasco, Principal
Washington Village School
Washington, VT 05675
Phone (802) 883 5421
Fax (802) 883-5411
email tromasco@washington k12 vt us

Champlain Valley Head Start

EARLY CARE ADVOCATE (Middlebury office) Coordinate services for Head Start children in collaborative classrooms in Huntington and Bolton. Provide information and support to collaborative classroom staff Conduct monthly social service contacts with Head Start families and support parent involvement in program activities. **Qualifications** CDA required Associate Degree in Early Childhood or related field preferred AA must be obtained by January 2003 **Starting wage $10 75/hr After probationary period wage is $11 01/hr, or $12 20/hr if candidate has AA or BA in Early Childhood or related field. Position is 40hr/wk approximately 40 weeks/year Bargaining Unit Position. Excellent benefits.**

A commitment to social justice and to working with families with limited resources is necessary Clean driving record and access to reliable transportation required Must demonstrate physical ability to carry out required tasks Applications from minorities and diverse cultural groups encouraged **Please submit resume and cover letter with three work references by Friday, December 21, 2001** Interviews will be scheduled for early January 2002 No phone calls please Applications may be sent by mail fax (802-658-0983) or e-mail pbehrman@cvoeo org

TO Search Committee
Early Care Advocate
Champlain Valley Head Start,
431 Pine Street
Burlington VT 05401

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Come work for the business that is setting the standards in EMS

Full/Part-time hours; $10/hr , benefits package
800-639-2082.
Pay DOE

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Must be dependable, enjoy working alone Flexible shifts full or part time positions available

Send resumés to the attention of Matthew at.

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Colchester, VT
05446

employment

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ACCESS TO A COMPUTER? Put it to work! Up to $25-$75/hr PT/FT. Call 888-492-9940 www.ExtremeCashBiz.com

ACTORS/MODELS NEEDED immediately PT/FT. Kids, teens & adults of all ages & ethnicities. High income potential. No experience needed. Call now! 1-800-771-5810 ext 7002 (AAN CAN)

ASSEMBLE CRAFTS. Wood items at home. Materials provided. Free information pack at 1-801-428-4657. 24 hrs.

BARTENDERS WANTED. Make money, get trained. Fun, exciting atmosphere. Up to $260 per shift. Call 800-806-0084 x 203 (AAN CAN)

BUSY AVEDA SALON seeking licensed esthetician or cosmetologist trained and interested in skin care. Relaxed atmosphere, wonderful diverse clientele, great location downtown Montpelier. Call 244-9188

CAMERA PEOPLE WANTED for public access show. Also compiling a directory of production people and actors in the Burlington area. Call Film Club Productions at 951-9618

CAREGIVER. For elderly woman in wheelchair. Great salary plus room/board. Please send resume to: P.O. Box 812, Stowe, VT 05672 or call 862-0762

CHILD AND FAMILY support provider to work as part of professional team with kids and adolescents w/emotional and behavioral challenges, including Autism Spectrum Disorders. Involves working in child's home and in community. After school and weekend hours, 5-25 hours/wk. Resume and cover letter to: Marilyn Lang, CSAC, 89 Main St., Middlebury, VT 05753 EOE

CUSTODIAN. Shelburne Community School has an immediate opening for a custodian to work the 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. shift. Competitive wages and good benefits are offered. If interested, please call John Bessange for further information at 985-3331 ext. 108 or submit a resume and three letters of reference to Shelburne Community School, Attn. John Bessange, Principal, 345 Harbor Road, Shelburne, VT 05482

EXTRAS/ACTORS. Up to $300 a day! All types needed. Call for info 1-800-260-3949 ext. 3025 (AAN CAN)

GOT BRAINS? NEED CASH? THE PRINCETON REVIEW needs bright enthusiastic people to teach SAT, GRE, GMAT, and LSAT courses near you. No experience necessary but high scores a must! $18-$23/hour. Hours are part time and flexible. Interviews start immediately! Call 800 2 REVIEW

MODEL FOR LIFE DRAWING and portrait class. Tuesdays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. $13/hr. Wake Robin, Shelburne. Call Adam at 985-5475

MYSTERY SHOPPERS needed. Burlington and St. Albans. Apply at: www.secretshopnet.com

OVERNIGHT STAFF PERSON needed to provide supportive services to a young gentleman living in the Montpelier area. This position requires three overnight shifts and one 24 hr shift on alternate weekends. Call John at Upper Valley Services: 496-7830

PROF. CREATIVE person needed. Busy AVEDA salon seeking part or full-time stylist. Relaxed atmosphere, wonderful diverse clientele, great location, downtown Montpelier. Spa skills a plus but not necessary. Call 224-9188

RECEPTIONIST: FT or PT at short's salon on Burlington Waterfront. Call 660-9428 ly mtg.

RETAIL MANAGER. Are you bright? Personable? Productive? Experienced? Take a key role at Tempo Home Furnishings. Sales opening also. Call Dick 863-8776

TRAVEL USA: Publication Sales co. Now hiring 18 sharp, enthusiastic individuals free to travel the entire US. Paid travel, training, lodging and transportation furnished, return guaranteed. Start today. 1-800-530-7278.

WILDERNESS CAMP Counselor. Year-round positions in Southeastern and Northeastern locations. Must enjoy camping, canoeing, hiking and helping at-risk youth. Excellent salary/benefits. Free room/board. Details & application: www.eckerd.org. Send resumes: Selection Specialist/AN, Eckerd Youth Alternatives, P.O. Box 7450, Clearwater, FL 33758. EOE. (AAN CAN)

work wanted

NEED EXTRA HOURS in your day? Help organizing your busy schedule? Talented assistant for hire. Events, projects, daily tasks, etc. Refs avail. Call Meghan at 860-3912

WORD PROCESSING, transcriptions, editing, research etc. Part-time, my home or your office. Mature prof. Call 879-1727

business opps

EARN UP TO $25,000 to $50,000/year. Medical insurance billing assistance needed immediately! Use your home computer, get FREE website and FREE long distance. 1-800-291-4683 dept. 190 (AAN CAN)

EARN UP TO $5888 per month. PT/FT. No experience needed! Sales agents. CALL NOW!! 1-800-771-8810 ext 2006 (AAN CAN)

LOOKING FOR BUSINESS owners, managers, entrepreneurs. Daily commissions. Rapidly expanding NYSE company. Call 800-380-1669

MEDICAL BILLING! $40K to $70K Yr. potential! Data entry. Medical billing. We need claim processors now! No experience needed. Will train. Computer required. 1-888-314-1033 Dept. 352 (AAN CAN)

PEPPERIDGE FARMS bread routes for sale in Plattsburgh/Tri lakes area/Malone and Burlington/St. Albans. Up to 90% financing. Tom Wilson 888-419-3373, press 2

SALES/HEALTH First time opportunity. Join cutting edge company promoting revolutionary patent pending health related technology and products. Distributorships and sales positions are limited. 866-658-7472 (AAN CAN)

lost & found

2 LOST CATS. 1 white female short hair, name is Nipple. 1 white female with extra toes, name is Beckala. In the area of Church and Adams St. If found please call 863-3513 or 864-5684, ask for Diane

announcements

$$CASH$$ Immediate Cash for structured settlements, annuities, notes and accident cases. 877-NOTES-31 (AAN CAN)

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real estate

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office space

BURLINGTON. 550+ sf. Corner of College and Church St., 3rd fl., elevator, share entry w/video production co. Call Paul at 1-800-559-0080

BURLINGTON. Cherry St. Spacious, bright, quiet and professional. $300/mo. Large enough for 2 or 3 people. Ideal for designers, writers, consultants, etc. Call 860-4668

BURLINGTON. Office space avail. for holistic health practitioners in psychotherapy and bodywork. If interested call Joanne Pic at 862-0836

BURLINGTON: Waterfront, affordable and healthy environment. Main Street Landing. Call 864-7999

MIDDLEBURY. Professional office suite avail. in a lovely Victorian setting on Court St. Easy parking. Call Valerie at 388-1177

S. BURLINGTON: Exquisite suites in historic building. Full service office center w/free parking, T1 on-site, 100-390 sq. ft. 1233 Shelburne Rd. Call 802-658-9697

space for rent

BURLINGTON. "The Space" for rent at Battery Street Jeans for conferences, meetings, workshops and dance, karate, yoga classes. High ceilings, very open, great exposure. Reasonable rates. Call 865-4554 or 865-6223 ask for Lori or Michelle

housing for rent

BURLINGTON: 2-bedroom, 1 bath, off-street parking, conveniently located downtown, easy walk to Church St., 10 min. walk to UVM, no pets, avail. immediately. $775/mo. + utils. Call 305-292-0769.

BURLINGTON. 3-bedroom house in the South End. W/D, off-street parking, min. to marketplace. Avail. 12/1. $1250/mo. + utils. Inc. sec. dep. and refs. Call 862-9088 anytime

BURLINGTON: $300 to $385/mo. (all utils. and phone included!) Single-room occupancy houses w/shared kitchen, bath, dining/living areas in downtown. Considerate applicants looked for for a communal type living scenario. (Some restrictions apply.) Call the Burlington Community Land Trust at 862-6244, or pick up an application at 179 S. Winooski Ave.

BURLINGTON: Downtown affordable housing. Park Plaza Co-op. 1-bedrooms avail. Open house: 125 St. Paul St., Sat./Sun. 1-4 p.m. Call 862-6244 M-F or 864-6925

BURLINGTON: Large 2-bedroom, clean and bright, private yard and deck, hard flrs, gas heat, parking, pets possible. $950/mo. + utils. Call 434-7688.

BURLINGTON: Large 2-bedroom duplex, hardwd flrs, W/D, private porch, storage, sorry no dogs. Avail. 12/20. $1000/mo. includes heat/HW. Call 660-2867 lv msg

BURLINGTON: Spacious 2-bedroom w/hardwood flrs, deck, yard, W/D, close to downtown/lake, no pets/smoking. Avail. 1/1. $1090/mo. + utils. Call 660-9009

ESSEX JCT: Charming 3-bedroom, many upgrades, safe and clean. Prof. no smoking/pets. $1050/mo. + sec. deposit. Call 878-7808

ESSEX JCT: Lovely 2-bed, wood, gas heat, W/D, yard, no pets. $900/mo. + utils. Call 878-8548

MORETOWN VILLAGE: Unique 1-bedroom w/loft on 2nd fl. River views, cathedral ceilings, skylights, gas heat, yard, garage. Plowing/garbage included. Avail. now. $700/mo. + utils. Call 496-3980

RICHMOND. 3-bedroom, 2 bath duplex. Wood floors, garden space, large yard, large porch, gas, cond., garage. W/D hookups, gas range. Avail. Now. $1200/mo. + utils. Call Frank at 893-9387

S. DUXBURY. Sunny 3-bedroom Cape/duplex with lots of character and open plan. Yard, brook, beam ceilings, basement, wood/oil heat, easy main road access. $1000/mo. Call 496-3980

WINOOSKI. Large 3-bedroom, W/D, parking, no pets. $1000/mo. Includes heat/HW. Call 878-8548

WINOOSKI. The Woolen Mill "Vermont's Most Unique Apartments." Spacious loft style apartments offering exposed brick and beams, river views, professional on site management. Pool, racquetball court and health club included in rent. Studios, 1, 2, 2 + loft, parking. No pets. Call M-F 9-5 for more information. (802)655-1185

sublets

BURLINGTON. NOT YOUR NORMAL DIGS. Beautifully designed, furnished home seeks person to houseshare. Cathedral ceilings, fireplace, wood floors, W/D, near bike path/lake. Mature, responsible-minded person who enjoys music, good people, relaxed atmosphere and team player would fit well. Must be able to traverse spiral staircase safely. Smoker/pet (no cats) accepted. Dec.-May. $500/mo. + utils. Call 864-6154 ext. 1

FERRISBURGH: Jan. through March. Small furnished apt. on 80 acres. Suitable for 1 quiet, mature person. Pay utils., rent neg. Call 877-2348

housing wanted

BURLINGTON: Artistic, friendly and SUBSTANCE-FREE female in search of safe mutual living arrangement with similar female(s) for February through May 2002. Call 443-6633

CHITTENDEN COUNTY. Prof. relocating to VT. Non-smoking 55 YO SM. Refs, no pets, looking for small house. Starting 1/6/02-2/1/02. Call 727-723-1940

RICHMOND AREA: Responsible, quiet, respectful, open-minded, mature, progressive, outdoor oriented M, 40's, seeks peaceful, affordable living situation. Please call 802-229-9351

room for rent

BURLINGTON: Furnished, clean, quiet, off-street parking, laundry, cable, shared kitchen/bath. No smoking/pets. $500/mo. includes all. Call 862-3341

housemates

ARE YOU A CARING person tired of high rents? We have elder home providers who charge low/no rent in exchange for few hours of weekly household help and friendly company. Call Project Home at 863-5625. EHO

BURLINGTON. 1 M/F to share 4-bedroom house. Off-street parking. Avail. Mid-Jan. $350/mo. + utils. Call 860-5009

BURLINGTON. 1 mature/responsible prof./grad. to share sunny 2-bedroom Victorian house. Off-street parking, 2 porches, W/D, no smokers/partyers/pets. $337/mo. + utils. Call 660-0658

BURLINGTON: 1 non-smoking, M/F, prof./grad. to share 3-bedroom house. Off street parking, patio, W/D, DW. Dogs possible. $425/mo. + 1/2 utils. Call 651-9353

BURLINGTON. 1 bedroom avail. 1/1/02 for prof./grad. in newly full old North End 3-bedroom house. Hardwood flrs, great kitchen, big yard w/deck, W/D, DW, no pets. $500/mo. + utils. Call 862-0182

BURLINGTON. F non-smoker, grad. student/prof., veggie fish/fowl ok, to share family house. Master bedroom, parking. New North End. $550/mo., includes utils. Call 658-1244

BURLINGTON: F to share small 2-bedroom apt. Off house parking, no pets. Avail. immediately, lease ends in May. $367/mo. + 1/2 utils. Call 865-0303

BURLINGTON: Grad./prof. to share house on North St. 4-8 blocks to UVM. Avail. 1/1/02. $400/mo. + 1/3 utils. Call 863-6964

BURLINGTON. One mature, responsible 30+ F prof./grad. preferred to share a 3 bedroom house. Very quiet, big yard, pool, completely furnished. $500/mo. Includes utils. 61 James Ave. Call 863-2261

BURLINGTON. Prof. F seeks same to share sunny Church St. apt. 2 flrs, brick walls, W/D on-site. Avail. 12/1. $440/mo. + utils. Call 860-4957

BURLINGTON. Share w/grad student & prof. Sunny flat, hardwood floors, DW, private entrance, quiet building, no long-term lease. Hill section, 5 min. to UVM. $475/mo. + 1/3 utils. Nate at 238-7860 for details.

BURLINGTON: Shared condo at 68A S. Willard St., located between Church St. & University. 1 1/2 BA, W/D, parking. Prefer F prof./grad. No pets. 1 large furnished room $380/mo. 1 basement room $275/mo. Call 238-5847 or 640-7172

CHARLOTTE: Share beautiful 1890's farmhouse with three responsible adults and one cat. No smokers/pets. $350/mo. + 1/4 utils. and deposit. Call Jack at 425-4761

COLCHESTER. M/F prof./grad student, non-smoker to share home near Mallet's Bay. Garage, W/D, DW, hardwood flrs. $450/mo. + 1/2 utils, sec. dep. Call 651-6855

ESSEX. Close to IBM. 20 acres. $400/mo. + utils. Call Steve at 878-3636

ESSEX JCT. responsible, prof./grad. F to share nice home. W/D, no smokers. Avail. 2/1/02. $400/mo., includes utils. Call 879-4226

MONKTON: 1-2 housemates for farmhouse, lots of land, no smoking. Avail. now. $350/mo. + utils. Call 453-3309

RICHMOND VILLAGE. Seeking younger woman to share our 3 bedroom house. Spacious, hrdwd flrs, W/D, yard, quiet street, fun roommates, 1 dog. $325/mo. + utils. call 434-7336

STARKSBORO: Looking for 3rd person to share big, beautiful country home on 30 acres. No smokers/pets/children. $400/mo. + $75/utils. deposit required. Beams of light wanted. Call 453-5409

WILLISTON. Share farmhouse adjacent to Catamount Family Center. Looking for prof. non-smoking. Avail. Jan. 1. $475/mo. + 1/2 utils. Call 656-7992 (days) or 878-0618 (evenings)

dating svcs.

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BUDDING PHOTOGRAPHER looking for jobs to expand portfolio. Will shoot your two hour event for $50. Film and developing at cost, you keep the negatives! Call Sarah at 899-1313 lv msg.

wedding svcs.

CEREMONIES of the Heart: Creating ceremonies to suit your spiritual beliefs. Rev. M. Anna Clark, M.Ed., M.S.C. Interfaith Minister, also funerals, etc. (802)875-1727 or e-mail revanna@soulschool.net

▸ volunteers

Participants needed for research study on goddesses

I am offering for a limited time one free consultation in person or by phone for young women (18-24 years old) interested in Goddess archetypes in connection with the astrological birth chart and flower essences

Karen Hansen LMHC, MBA 802 862-8240

▸ pets

I am looking for a new home, and somebody who will have plenty of love, time and energy for me. I have spent the last 5 1/2 years of my life surrounded by children (young and old) and dogs, other animals, and of course plenty of adults. I get along with them all wonderfully! Please call Jordan and find out more about me at 660-4668

▸ buy this stuff

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BED: Pillowtop mattress, box and frame. Never used, must sell. $290. Call phone, 598-0316.

FUTON Full-size solid oak 8" mattress, new in box. Cost $745, sell $350. Call 802 734-0788.

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DRUMMERS MUSICIANS & rhythmically inclined are sought by Sambatucada! A Burlington based Brazilian Carnival-style percussion group. Practice with the group for three hours each week. Learn the intricate rhythms, the Parade steps, wear crazy attire, perform in front of small or large audiences and most importantly, have a blast. No prior experience necessary. Join now, perform by Mardi Gras! Call Emery 899 2422 or write to vermonte@gmavt.net

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▸ music instruct.

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▸ legals

CITY OF BURLINGTON
In the Year Two Thousand One Hundred
An Ordinance in Relation to
PERSONNEL
Retirement System Benefits Extension of Benefits for IBEW Employees

It is hereby Ordained by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That Chapter 24, Personnel, Article II, Retirement System of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Burlington be and hereby is amended by amending Sections 24-22, 24-41, 24-42 thereof to read as follows:

Sec. 24-22. Retirement; benefits.

(a) As written.

(b) As written.

(c) Upon service retirement after July 1, 1936, a member shall receive during his lifetime an annual service retirement benefit which shall be:

(1) As written

(2) For a Class B member retiring at age sixty-five (65) or thereafter, ~~one-and-two tenths (1.2) percent, or for non-union, City AFSCME, Burlington School District (BSD) AFSCME, and Burlington School District Paraeducators (BSDP) members,~~ one and six tenths (1.6) percent of his final compensation multiplied by his years of credited service at age sixty-five (65), not in excess of twenty five (25) years, plus five (0.5) percent of such average final compensation multiplied by the number of years of his credited service at age sixty five (65) in excess of twenty five (25) years. The annual service retirement benefit payable to a Class B member in service as of July 1, 1983, retiring prior to age sixty five (65), with such benefit commencing after having attained age sixty-two (62), shall be computed on the basis of his average final compensation at retirement and his years of credible service reduced by five-eighths of one percent (5/8 1%) for each month between his age at retirement and age sixty-five (65). The annual service retirement benefit payable to a Class B member not in service on July 1, 1983, retiring prior to the attainment of age sixty-five (65), as well as the annual service retirement benefit payable to a Class B member in service on July 1, 1983, who retires prior to attaining the age of sixty-two (62) shall be computed on the basis of his average final compensation at retirement reduced actuarially according to actuarial tables adopted by the retirement board, as set forth in section 24-14, the benefit determined by the length of time between the date of retirement and the attainable age of sixty-five (65). A Class A member who retires prior to the attained age of fifty-five (55) shall have his annual service retirement benefit computed on the basis of his average final compensation at retirement reduced actuarially according to actuarial tables adopted by the retirement board, as set forth in section 24-14, the benefit determined by the period of time which his retirement precedes the earlier of his completion of twenty-five (25) years of credited service or his attainment of age fifty-five (55). However for Class A members the early retirement reduction where service is twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) years shall be as follows: 24 years-1.82%, 23 years-3.64%, 22 years-5.46%, 21 years-7.28% and 20 years-9.09%.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 24-22(c)(2), a Class B non-union, City AFSCME and Burlington School District Paraeducator (BSDP) member in service on July 1, 2000, or a Burlington School District (BSD) AFSCME member in service on August 1, 2001, or an IBEW member in service on July 1, 2001, retiring prior to age sixty five (65) shall have his benefit computed on the basis of his average final compensation at retirement and his years of credible service, reduced by two (2) percent for each year between his age at retirement and age sixty-five (65).

(d) As written.

(e) Cost of living adjustments and accrual rates

(1) As written

(2) In lieu of the accrual rate of ~~1.3%, or~~ 1.6% ~~for non-union, City AFSCME, BSD AFSCME and BSDP members,~~ provided in subsection (c) at the time of retirement, a Class B member may choose either an accrual rate of ~~1.367%, or~~ 1.3% ~~for non-union, City AFSCME, BSD AFSCME or BSDP members,~~ for the first twenty-five (25) years of service and a cost of living adjustment equal to one-half that provided for in section 24-40, or an accrual rate of ~~1.634%, or~~ 2.20% ~~for non-union, City AFSCME, BSD AFSCME and BSDP members,~~ for the first twenty five (25) years of service and no cost of living adjustment.

Sec. 24-41. Survivor income benefit.

(a) As written.

(b) As written.

(c) The monthly amount of survivor income shall be ~~twenty-five (25) percent, or for non-union, Class A, City AFSCME, BSD AFSCME and BSDP~~ thirty (30) percent, of the member's earned compensation for the month of July immediately preceding the month in which the member's death occurs. If the member is survived by an eligible spouse, the survivor income shall be payable to the spouse until the earlier of:

(1) As written

(2) As written.

(3) As written

Sec. 24-42. Effective date.

The amendment in Sec. 24-41(c) which changed the survivor income from 25% to 30% for non-union, Class A, City AFSCME and BSDP members shall be regarded as effective July 1, 2000. Said amendment for BSD AFSCME members shall be regarded as effective August 1, 2001. Said amendment for IBEW members shall be regarded as effective July 1, 2001.

The amendments in Sec. 24-22 (c)(2) and 24-22 (e)(2) which changed the Class B non-union, City AFSCME and BSDP members accrual rate to 1.6% and the early retirement reduction to 2% per year shall be regarded as effective July 1, 2000. Said amendments for BSD AFSCME members shall be regarded as effective August 1, 2001. Said amendments for IBEW members shall be regarded as effective July 1, 2001.

The amendments in Sec. 24-14, 24-22 (c), (c)(1), (c)(2), (e)(1) and 24-26 (b) which changed the Class A early retirement age, changed the early retirement reduction for service from 20-25 years and changed the accrual rate to 2.75% shall be regarded as effective July 1, 2000.

Balance of Sec. 24-42. As written

CITY OF BURLINGTON TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

The following items are enacted by the Public Works Commission as amendments to the City of Burlington's Code of Ordinances, Appendix C, Traffic Regulations:

Sec. 10. Two-Hour parking

No person shall park a vehicle for a period longer than two hours between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Sundays and holidays except in the following locations:

(1) Through (12) As written

(13) [On the west side of Summit Ridge] Reserve

Adopted this day **8th** of **August** 2001 by the Board of Public Works Commissioners

Attest: Fred Matthews, Engineering Division

Adopted 8/8/01, Published 12/12/01, Effective 1/2/02

Carpool Connection

Call 864-CCTA to respond to a listing or to be listed

MORRISVILLE to ESSEX. I need a ride to IBM. I work from 7 pm-7 am. (40057)

ST. ALBANS to ESSEX. I need a ride to IBM. I need to be to work between 7:30 am & 8:30 am. (40056)

BURLINGTON to S. BURLINGTON. I need a ride to Sears at the University Mall. I work Sun.-Sat. from 8 am-2 pm. (40048)

WATERBURY to MONTPELIER. My hours are 7 am-3 pm. I am flexible & looking for a ride M-F. (40041)

S. BURLINGTON to ESSEX JCT. I am looking for a ride to IBM from S. Burlington. I work M-F 8 am-4:30 pm. (40038)

BURLINGTON to S. BURLINGTON. I am looking for a ride Mon., Tues., Fri. & Sat. I work from 9:30am-6:00pm. 40077

BURLINGTON to MILTON. I am looking for a ride to IBM Mon.-Sun. My hours are 8:00am-8pm. (40075)

BURLINGTON to COLCHESTER. I am looking for a ride to Colchester Monday-Friday. (40084)

BURLINGTON to MILTON or COLCHESTER. I am looking for a ride to Milton or Colchester from Burlington at 8:30 a.m. (40096)

BURLINGTON to MILTON. I am looking for a ride from Burlington to Chimney Corners Monday-Friday. My hours are 6:00am to 4:00pm. (40083)

BURLINGTON to ESSEX JCT. I am looking for a ride to Essex Junction Monday-Friday. My hours are 8:00am-5:00pm. (40085)

BURLINGTON to MILTON. I am looking for a ride to Milton from Burlington Sunday-Monday. My hours and days are flexible. (40107)

WILLISTON to COLCHESTER. I am looking for a ride to Water Tower Hill in Colchester from Williston and back from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (40033)

BURLINGTON to RICHMOND. I am looking for a ride at 7:00 a.m. one way, Monday-Friday. (40108)

MONKTON to WILLISTON. I am looking to share driving. Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (40125)

ESSEX JCT. to ESSEX CTR. I am looking for a ride to Pine Chapel in Essex. Sat. and Sun. 10:30 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. (40128)

GRAND ISLE FERRY to BURLINGTON. I am looking for share driving Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (40016)

WINOOSKI to GRAND ISLE FERRY. I am looking to share driving Mon.-Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 a.m. (40010)

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HONDA CRV 1997, bought new 1/98, one owner, well maintained, green, 100K mi. $12,000/bo. Call 865-6069.

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SAAB 900SE TURBO, 1997 black, loaded, sunroof, good cond., 57K mi. Book $18,000, will take $13,900/firm. Call 479-0688, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.

SUBARU LOYALE, 1992, 145K mi., well-maintained, inspected thru 12/2. $1800. Call 453-5538.

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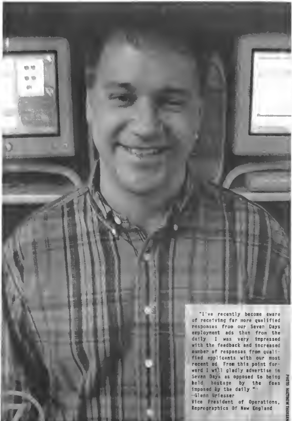

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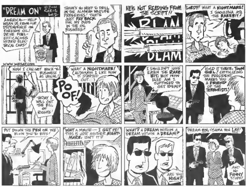
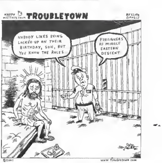
"I've recently become aware of receiving far more qualified responses from our Seven Days employment ads than from the daily I was very impressed with the feedback and increased number of responses from qualified applicants with our most recent ad From this point forward I will gladly advertise in Seven Days as opposed to being held hostage by the fees imposed by the daily."
—Glenn Griesser
Vice President of Operations,
Reprographics Of New England

seven days.it works.

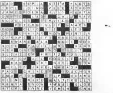
7 the fuNnieS


"DREAM ON"
©2001 CAROL LAY
AMERICA — HELP WEAN US FROM OUR DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN OIL! DRIVE FUEL-EFFICACIOUS HYBRID ELECTRICAL CARS!
THERE'S NO NEED TO DRILL IN THE ALASKAN WILDLIFE PRESERVES! THAT'S JUST PAY BACK FOR MY BUDS IN THE OIL BUSINESS!
HE'S NOT READING FROM THE SCRIPT!!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
LORDY! WHAT A NIGHTMARE! I SHOULDNA ATE THE RAREBIT!
WWW.WAYLAY.COM
NOW I CAN GET BACK TO BUSINESS AS USUAL!
TODAY I WILL GUT THE BILL OF RIGHTS!
POOF!
WHAT A NIGHTMARE! (ALTHOUGH I LIKE HOW IT STARTED OUT.)
I SHOULDN'T HAVE EATEN THE RAREBIT, BUT HOW ELSE AM I SUPPOSED TO GET IDEAS?
HOLD IT THERE, TOON GIRL! CRITICIZING THE PRESIDENT MAKES YOU A FRIEND OF THE TERRORISTS!
PUT DOWN THE PEN OR WE BLOW YOU TO BITS!
WAIT A MINUTE — I GET IT! THIS IS JUST ANOTHER NIGHTMARE, ISN'T IT?
WHAT? A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM?
ARE YOU HIGH?
DREAM ON, OSAMA BIN LAY!
AND NO FUNNY STUFF!

LIFE IN HELL
©2001 BY MATT GROENING
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I COULD COMPLETELY ACCEPT MYSELF JUST AS I AM?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I COULD DECIDE WHAT I WANT OUT OF LIFE?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I COULD SET SIMPLE REALISTIC GOALS TO ACHIEVE HAPPINESS?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I STARTED MAKING STEADY PROGRESS IN MY LIFE?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I COULD OVERCOME ALL MY IRRATIONAL FEARS AND DOUBTS?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I COULD STOP SABOTAGING MY OWN EFFORTS TO BE HAPPY?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I COULD OPEN MY HEART TO TRUE LOVE?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF I COULD RELAX AND ENJOY MY LIFE RIGHT HERE AND NOW?
WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF DOGS COULD PLAY POKER LIKE IN THEIR PAINTINGS?


HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM TROUBLETOWN
BY LLOYD DANGLE
NOBODY LIKES BEING LOCKED-UP ON THEIR BIRTHDAY, SON, BUT YOU KNOW THE RULES
FOREIGNERS OF MIDDLE EASTERN DESCENT
©2001
www.troubletown.com

RED MEAT
glad tightenings and seasonal greasings
from the secret files of Max Cannon
Cripes, Johnson - this is the sixth holiday sausage and cheese assortment package I've delivered to you since Thanksgiving.
Yep. I belong to several holiday "samples clubs."
I used to belong to one. In fact, I have half a beef brick and a smoked cheddar log left over from last year, and they still taste fine.
Ha! We're still working on last year's supply too.
It's amazing. If they could figure out how to embalm bread and milk like that, I'd do all my grocery shopping through the mail.
That's every man's dream, Johnson.



Dec 13 - Dec 19

astrology

By Rob Brezsny

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): The Arizona Diamondbacks are the macho kingpins of baseball. Last November they dethroned the invincible New York Yankees with a come-from-behind victory in the last game of the World Series. As the winning run scored and the Diamondbacks players joyfully mobbed each other, an anthem blared from the hometown loudspeakers. It was "We Are the Champions," a song written and sung by a famous gay musician, Freddie Mercury. Watching the spectacle on TV I chuckled appreciatively. Did the notoriously homophobic dudes on the field recognize the irony? I offer you this vignette, Aries, in hopes it might inspire you. When your own shining hour comes in the coming weeks, reach out magnanimously to an influence you've always marginalized or excluded.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Jeannine Parvati is an astrologer and midwife who has authored three books. With her partner, Rico, she has made intelligent parenting an essential part of her spiritual path. This has been problematic for some of her colleagues. One expressed dismay when she announced she was pregnant again. "Jeannine, you should be writing more books instead of having more babies," the critic moaned. "Think of how famous you would be if you'd devote as much ambition to your writing career as you do to raising your kids." With typical wit, Parvati replied, "But I'm already famous with God." I offer that thought as a blessing to you, Taurus. The work you're doing may be only partially visible to the naked eye, but it is seen and appreciated by the divine helpers.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Most forms of wild obsession and manic fantasy hurt your ability to carry out your dreams, but there are also a few kinds of madness that keep you honest and spice up your life. This is a perfect astrological moment for you to identify your personal version of the soothing, healing stuff, Gemini, then take steps to care for it and cultivate it in the months to come. As one of my favorite singers, Seal, says in his song "Crazy", "We're never gonna survive/Unless we get a little crazy."

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "Dear Dr. Brezsny: I've wrestled all my life with fear, which I've heard is common for us Cancers. But lately it's been even worse than usual. My personal demons seem to be winning, or at least getting the better of the fight. I think it's related to the fact that I have worked hard to lose all my illusions, and now I find maybe that was a mistake. Perhaps I needed my illusions to keep the demons at bay? — Crybaby Crab."

Dear Crybaby: Hang on. This is the toughest part of your struggle. I know it may seem that the illusions you dissolved were the main barrier safeguarding you from your demons, but in fact those illusions were food for your demons. Very soon now they'll be starving. If they don't die off, they will at least fly away in search of other nourishment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): As the Taliban fled Kabul in mid-November, Afghans celebrated amidst the chaos. There was suddenly no government; bombs and years of war had ruined much of the infrastructure; it was uncertain how well-behaved the Northern Alliance soldiers would be as they occupied the city. And yet there was a mood of exhilaration as local residents resumed activities that had been banned by the fundamentalist Taliban. Men shaved their beards again. Children flew kites. Women threw off their veils. Everyone listened to music. I urge you to draw inspiration from their example, Leo. The uproar around you in the coming months, though nowhere near as intense as the one in Kabul, will be invigorating if you're passionately determined to celebrate amidst uncertainty.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): If you believe everything I tell you, you haven't yet become a fiercely independent thinker. As careful as I am not to infringe on your free will, I can't possibly give you the precise advice you need every single week. For the sake of your soul's health, then, you have a duty to rebel against me from time to time, just as you do against all the so-called "experts," "teachers," and "leaders" who pass themselves off as supremely knowledgeable. I'm mentioning this, Virgo, because it has now become absolutely essential for you to be a cheerful skeptic who asks penetrating, embarrassing and outrageous questions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I'm a genius — and so are you. You're a gifted adept — and so am I. That's the law in the New World we're creating. It's very different from the Old World we're in, where your greatness makes me feel diminished and *schadenfreude* is epidemic and all of us compete for the rare privilege of being a well-appreciated star. In the New World, Libra, you don't have to be shy about how wonderful you are, because you genuinely long for other people to shine. You have confidence in your capacity to be proud but not arrogant; you openly exult in your own mastery but are sympathetic and sensitive towards everyone else. Best of all: As you express more and more of the unique potential you were born with, you inspire others to claim more of their own idiosyncratic brilliance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If you're an elementary school teacher, it's a perfect moment to think about moonlighting as a nightclub singer — and vice versa. If you're a physician trained in Western medicine, it's a favorable time to investigate alternative healing traditions. If you're a physicist, I recommend you read some mind-boggling poetry, and if you're a starving artist, study the *Wall Street Journal*. In other words, Scorpio, open up a channel to what you've been missing. Explore the gaps in your education. Entertain possibilities you've barred from even crossing your threshold of awareness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Endangered species: Utah prairie dog, Hawaiian monk seal, Guam Micronesian kingfisher and Sagittarian grandiosity. While I mourn the first three, I'm quite pleased with the last. I'm hoping it means you're learning to scale down your inflated expectations and overblown promises without diluting any of your passionate enthusiasm. Maybe by this time next year your idealism will have become so practical that you will have accomplished twice as much good work as you have in the past.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Thank you for not smoking while reading this horoscope. Thank you as well for not burping, drooling, picking your nose, getting drunk, spilling food on yourself, thinking nasty thoughts about anyone and letting your mind leap from undiluted bland ideas to out-of-control feelings like a mean monkey on amphetamines. All such behavior would interfere with your ability to register on deep subconscious levels the meaning of this horoscope, which is, in a nutshell, Calm down. Still your nervous habits. Avoid knee-jerk reactions. Silence your judgments. Count your blessings. Empty your heart of expectations. Remember what's truly important. Purify yourself in every way you can imagine.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The planets are ganging up in your chart to precipitate long-postponed climaxes. As one of the fringe benefits, I'm betting you'll finally get to utter some magic words you've been waiting an eternity to say — maybe something like "Ha! Now you have to gimme it! So gimme it now!" Or perhaps it'll be something a little classier, like "Aha! I hate to say I told you so, but ... I always knew I'd receive my rightful reward in the end." Whatever the magic words are, Aquarius, I'm sure they'll ring with vindication, pride and childlike giddiness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): All her life my friend Morgana suffered from excessive sensitivity and reactiveness. Her moods swung unpredictably, often triggered by imagined slights or ephemeral disappointments. She didn't like this about herself, but found it difficult to change. Then she got a job working as a social worker at a battered women's shelter. In service to the daily tumult of extreme emotions, she became a pillar of equanimity. Mothers and children alike grew to depend on her good-natured stability. I nominate Morgana to be your patron saint in 2002, Pisces. According to my astrological analysis, your feelings, like hers, will mature at a rapid rate. You're already planting the seeds.

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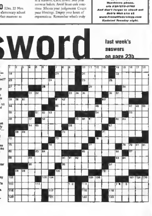
Updated Tuesday night.

7DCrossword

last week's answers on page 23b

ACROSS
1 Writer Susan
7 AAA handout
10 Explorer Tasman
14 Checker move?
19 Carry too far
20 Winter hazard
21 Creme — creme
22 Kunta — ("Roots" character)
23 Start of a remark by Steven Wright
26 Patrician
27 Canadian prov.
28 Victim
29 Wool gatherer?
30 Roll-call reply
31 Level
33 Entire range
36 Put up with
38 Thick stick
41 Put aside
43 Bird part
44 See 11 Down
46 Part 2 of remark
50 It may get flipped
51 Connecticut town
54 Summit
55 Live and breathe
56 Mighty mite
58 Sausage segment
60 Long Island resort
63 Tel Aviv teacher
65 Out of the way
66 Beak
67 One way to park
68 Tranquil
70 Part 3 of remark
71 Kukla or Lamb Chop
72 Ill will
73 Cherbourg chapeau
74 Glee
75 "— a Symphony" ('65 song)
76 Submarine finder
77 Competitors
78 Facilitate a felony
80 — Tin Tin
83 Paradise
86 Merchant
87 Cal. page
88 Part 4 of remark
93 Over
95 Jai —
96 Sounds the tocsin
97 Ullman or Gold
98 Goatish gamboler
100 Bar hop?
101 Dr. Scholl's concern
103 Source
105 Cardinal
106 — Flynn Boyle
107 Mil. training ctr.
110 African capital
113 End of remark
116 Jazzman Chick
117 Forehead
118 Organ of equilibrium
119 Steak or lobster
120 Abrasive substance
121 "— forgive those ..."
122 All too interested?
123 Arid lawn

DOWN
1 Manhattan district
2 Hot spot?
3 Frog's kin
4 Singing syllable
5 They may be sketched
6 Mahalia's music
7 Pixie and Dixie
8 "— Breaky Heart" ('92 hit)
9 Princess bruiser
10 Orthodox date org.
11 With 44 Across, sober veggie
12 "Silas Marner" author
13 Endure
14 Ring and
15 Kansas city
16 "The Lady —" ('79 film)
17 Geek
18 French bean?
24 Fancy vase
25 A Muse
31 Inflatable item?
32 Sell
33 Continue
35 Circle section
36 "Mal de —"
37 Impoverished
39 Fountain order
39 Component
40 Carthaginian queen
41 Book part
42 Travel with Spock?
43 — aerobics
45 Rotisserie part
47 Defer
48 NASA lap
49 Equine accessory
52 Skirt shape
53 Coney Island attraction
57 Ballet's Tallchief
58 Actress Stevens
60 Santa's problem
61 Destiny
63 Dominant, as a dog
65 On the sly
66 Doris Day refrain
67 Handbag
68 Master, in Madras
69 '88 John Malkovich movie
70 Barnyard belle
71 Mottled
72 Serving or Nair
73 — tide
74 Complains
76 Big rig
77 Luau feature
79 Coll. hotshot
80 Roof part
81 Playing card
82 TV's "— & Greg"
83 "Comin' — the Rye"
85 Half-baked?
86 More squalid
89 Heavenly sight
91 Alphabet sequence
92 Network
94 Try for a hit
97 Provoked
98 Biblical city
99 Pianist Watts
100 Fishermen frequently
101 Auber's "— Diavolo"
103 Confront
104 Swedish rockers
105 Last name in limericks
106 Chateau
107 Grimm creature
108 "Moonstruck" star
109 Dole's date
111 Utter
112 Stow away
113 Drill sergeant's shout
114 Compass pt.
115 "— Not Unusual" ('65 hit)



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Call
1-800-710-8727
charge directly to your credit card. $[illegible] must be 18+

Or Call
1-900-370-7127
$1.99/minute must be 18+

Open 24 hours!

SWF VEGETARIAN, ENVIRONMENTAL [illegible] hiker, runner. Seeking SM, 38-52, for friendship, possible LTR. Prefer woods to crowds, but enjoy cultural events. Into alternative health care, folk music, organic food. 8273

SHARE THE SIMPLE THINGS IN LIFE. SOMEwhat shy SWF 39, enjoys hiking, folk dancing, cooking. ISO environmentally friendly SM with a sense of humor. Friendship first, possible LTR. 8272

ATTRACTIVE, FIT, NS, SWPF. BLUE EYES, blond hair 5'6" 44 YO. Loves outdoors, reading, meditation. ISO honest, kind heart, educated, intelligent, fit 50+ energetic SWPM who enjoys life. For friendship + LTR. [illegible]

SW BODY OF A WOMAN TO MEET A DOWN-to-earth person who loves children, camping and the simple quiet ways of life, the very personal, love quiet times, a bit of a loner, body, light blonde/blue eyes, 5'5", full-figured, and curious minded. Call if you're looking for a serious relationship. 8218

44 YO SPIRITUAL, SPIRITED, SENSUAL, pretty, petite, prof. seeks attractive, adventuresome, athletically attuned, adoringly and artfully intelligent SWPM. Penchant for personal growth, passion for play and wit, [illegible] of verve preferred. 8217

WANTED: NICE SWEET BOY FOR MY DOWN-mate. Must be kit, dark & handsome. Melancholy poet a plus. Answers to "Sparkle" very [illegible]. Find her. 8208

ISO THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE. SWF, 54, mother of two [illegible] ages of 18-39 who enjoys dancing, movies and taking walks. [illegible] please respond. [illegible]

women seeking men

SWF SEEKING SWM, INTELLECTUALLY educated prof. 58-65, with a sense of humor and an interest in the arts, anthropology, world travel and healthy living. NS. 8496

DESPERATELY SEEKING TRUE OLD-FASHioned romance. Beautiful and sparkling 52 YO woman desires a spiritual connection with a mature intellectual gentleman. Enjoy fine dining, theatre, canoeing, woods-walking and travel. 8495

DEAR SANTA: TO FULFILL THE WISH LIST OF an attractive, slender, SWPF 36-41. Boxed and gift wrapped, SWPM, 5'9"+, dark, handsome gentleman. Only 1 model avail. Includes battery (big heart). 8494

YOUTHFUL, PETITE, SWPF 51, AVERAGE fitness, enjoys hiking, biking, snowshoeing, children, animals, travel, diverse music, reading. ISO compassionate, well-read energetic man 40-60, to share similar interests. [illegible] 8487

SWF MATURE, NUTRITIONAL CONSERVAtive, fiscal moderate, political progressive, artistic liberal, sexual radical. ISO spirited discussion and possible co-habitation. 8485

LET'S GO SKIING: 5'3" BLUE-EYED PROPortionate blonde 37 seeks tall SWPM for indoor/outdoor adventures. Intelligent, witty, high-energy woman [illegible] colorful [illegible] sauces and [illegible] of fun. 8482

GROUNDED AND BALANCED BUT NOT TOO crunchy. SWPF 37 with Buddhist/Taoist leanings. ISO [illegible] agent, fit, self-actualized M, 40ish for various adventures. 8480

VERY OPEN-MINDED SWF 40's SEEKS MAN to make me laugh at freezing snow and war on terrorism. Enjoy karaoke, dancing, making wild home videos outdoors or [illegible]. 8479

CURVACEOUS, PLAYFUL, VERY PRETTY, intelligent, diverse interests, passion for the arts, hope to find handsome BF (Prof?) 40-50, at least 5'7", with ocean dreams left to live. 8463

SWF 25 YO, ATTRACTIVE ARTIST. FUN AND fun-loving. ISO [illegible] and [illegible] life, eye and art with. Let's make our rules up as we go along. 8456

I JUST WANT TO GET LAID! I'M FRUSTRATED! Attractive Redheaded BBF, 29, who [illegible] a man who will help satisfy me while I satisfy him! Shape/Color unimportant. [illegible]

I CHALLENGE A SM, 30-45, TO WORK CLICH[illegible] in Paris. Let's do coffee...and [illegible] when you're done, ask this 36 yo [illegible]...it won't hurt, I promise. 8452

HEALTHY, HAPPY, SEXY & READY. ISO A "real man" SPM, 30-early 40s who values personal growth, nature & mature intimacy. Are you healthy, happy & ready too? Friendship first, no kids... yet. 8450

DOWN-TO-EARTH, 24 YO, COUNTRY GIRL. Understanding, honest and caring with an addictive smile and comforting sense of humor. ISO relaxed, clever man for a [illegible] singularity. 8385

the personals pussy asks:

Are you lonely tonight?

No need! Answer one of these great ads or place one of your own.

(That's how I met Morris!)

SWPF 40, GENTLE-HEARTED SOUL, HUMOR-humored. Seeks confident, spunky, quick witted, animal loving SWPM, 40-45. To enjoy each others company, movies, the arts and leisurely walking. [illegible]

SWPF 24, 5'8" LOVES TRAVEL, ART and me & learning. Assertive, opinionated, workaholic. ISO tall, interesting SWM, sensitive, handy, mature nice guy. [illegible]

INTELLIGENT SWF 31, 5'3" 140 LBS, WELL-educated, world traveler, skier/snowboarder seeks fun loving companion. Must be fit, employed and well rounded. Lover of fine wines and foods. [illegible]

SWF 59, LIFE-LOVING, OPEN, NATURAL, minded, [illegible] ISO 50-65 YO NS, NS M who knows [illegible] life and [illegible] of it. [illegible]

BEAUTIFUL SWF LATE 30S, RELATIVELY NEW to area, liberal, travel planning, vegetarian, writer, homesteader. ISO good looking, SWM 38 or younger, intelligent, artistic or musically inclined SWM to stimulate me intellectually. [illegible]

SMART, FUNNY, OUTGOING WF 44. ISO witty guy to do stuff with. Time outdoors, board games, jazz, good food, weather watching, wine, dogs, conversation and you! Middlebury area. [illegible]

CREATIVE, SASSY, FULL OF POSITIVE ENERGY. working pro bono for non-profits. Would love to get whacky with right M who's ready to support a F who will challenge him. 8175

SWPF 47 LIKE THE OLD SONG GOES "FIVE foot two, eyes of blue... has anybody seen my gal?" She's right here waiting for you. Busy life, but need some social time. Young looking and young at heart. 8169

ATTRACTIVE, YOUTHFUL, 47 YO ISO MAN W/ warm heart, curious mind, liberal views, hiking boots, sense of adventure, snowshoes, tent, [illegible] person kayak for friendship and maybe more. [illegible]

men seeking women

INTERESTED IN A FULL BODY MASSAGE? [illegible] SWM, 48, [illegible] 5'[illegible]" 215. ISO SF 40-55 looking for something special. [illegible]

IT'S TIME TO PUT MY SUMMER TOYS AWAY and get ready for some winter fun. Me 47 good looking and very active. You, 40-52 attractive, intelligent and humorous. 8498

WANTED: F 30-39 SUPERWOMAN. ABLE TO make love for hours and hours, [illegible] trees, shrubs and flowers [illegible] on snow banks [illegible] books. My [illegible] make you happy. Women will [illegible] and bisexual women please apply. 8493

FRIENDS FIRST? HA! WHAT ABOUT PASSION and love at first sight? No [illegible] for long walks or poems. Busy DWM, 42. ISO [illegible], weeknight trysts. 8492

SWPM, 53 YO, ISO SWF, 29-40 YO, STATUS no [illegible] who likes dining, good conversation, acoustic guitar, dancing, etc. I'm open to just about anything. Twice if [illegible] it. 420 friendly, I'm waiting. 8491

AS I AM RUNNING DOWN THE COUNTRY dirt road I realize I'm not thinking so much anymore. After some time the old endorphins kick in and there you are. NS, SI seeks kind, unobstructed friend. [illegible]

ONE LONELY NIGHT I SAT ALONE HOPING and praying that you would phone. I've rolled the ads and paid the price. A simple call back would be nice. [illegible]

TEACHER AND WRITER OF SORTS SEEKING 40+ lass who loves to dance, [illegible] and drink tea amongst snow [illegible] while dogs are [illegible]. [illegible]

MY SEARCH CONTINUES. SWM, EDUCATED, over 60, active, great physical shape, downhill skier, sailor, biker, tennis, NS, caring, compassionate, [illegible], communicative, gentle sense of humor. ISO committed relationship, over 48. 8475

SPIRITED, SEXY, SANE, 6'4", 45 YO M IN search of an active, intelligent, independent woman who is secure in her life. Open-minded, communicative, curious and sensual, as I am. 8464

YOUTHFUL, 71 YO, ARTIST SEEKING WOMAN [illegible] 50's to hang out with. Living in Ohio now, wish to live in Montpelier by next summer. Please be slender, non-smoking and creative. I am multi-talented, experienced, and ready to try again. 8461

WANTED: GIRL WHO RIDES. 26 YO SWPM, NS. Seeking SPF 22 and over, riding partner, maybe more, who is athletic, smart, caring, fun, [illegible], responsible, to drive me wild. [illegible]

30 WORDS AND A MESSAGE, COULD IT catch your interest? Allow us to meet! My treat, no bodyguard necessary. SWPM, 44, fit, [illegible] handsome. ISO cute/attractive, sometimes silly SF. [illegible]

YOU'RE THE NEEDLE, I'M THE THREAD. LET'S make something lasting. SWM, 46, 6', slim, loving, personable, handsome, financially secure. With sail boat, nice country home, [illegible] interests. ISO SWF 35+, educated, [illegible], slender, pretty. [illegible]

SWM, 40'S, 6', 185, MUSICIAN WITH DAY job. Seeking F, 35 [illegible] outdoors, dogs, books, travel, music, friendship, LTR. [illegible]

SWM, BLUE EYES/BROWN HAIR, 150 LBS. I'M a [illegible] guy who likes to do most any thing. Seeking a woman in her 40s-50s range. [illegible]

SWM, HAZEL EYES, 162 LBS, 32 YO. ISO SWF 18-35 for LTR. Like to swim, bike, bowling, cuddling, long walks on the beach, travel & anything in between. NS/ND/NA. [illegible]

M, 26, LOOKING FOR, 18-35 YO, HIPPY chick. Interests: hiking, camping, gardening, travel, snowboarding. Must have sense of humor and like dogs. 8264

"VENUS AS A BOY" SWPM ISO PETITE, super-cute, 18-25, to zealously fulfill low urges. Mischievous but kind, [illegible] but not immature, romantic but not clingy. Toward gratification reward for the right chemistry. [illegible]

SWPM AS COMFORTABLE IN LEATHERS ON a Harley as in suit and tie. Honest, caring, warm, gentle and fit. ISO a lady, 40's-50's, to share life with, ready to start over. NS/ND. [illegible]

VTFROGGIE(33)- I'VE GLIMPSED YOU FROM afar [illegible] and want to know more. SWM, [illegible], with dog. Let's walk and talk. [illegible]

SWPM, 36, ND, NS. COMPASSIONATE, RESpectful, genuine guy. ISO NS, ND, traveling, SF for intriguing conversation, quiet dinners, outdoor stuff and new adventures. Dance? Call. 8254

SUGARDADDY! SEEKING SEXY, SINCERE 20-something protégé who doesn't think [illegible] for her max. And no, I'm not shallow [illegible] gratuitous, just know what [illegible] want. [illegible]

AN AFFINITY FOR ADVENTURE, POIGNANT conversation and emphatic [illegible] keeps this 6ft, blue-eyed, go-something SWM searching for that active, athletic, chic, 30-45 SF. Come find me. [illegible]

MY GREATEST LESSON. SWM, 50'S, SMOKER, good, [illegible]. ISO petite F, 30-55, for friendship, companionship and possible LTR. Love's music, dancing, dining, Jacuzzi, massage and intimacy. [illegible]

SWM, 50S. YOU: SWF 40-60, NS, SECURE, sensitive, caring and fit, 5.5 or more tennis rating, sense of humor. Home owner, college grad. [illegible]

QUIET, SENSITIVE, NURTURING SM, 37, fit, NS, [illegible] into yoga, photography, camping/hiking, classical music. ISO younger SF with similar interests/qualities for friendship and possible LTR. [illegible]

SHY BUT FUNNY SWM, 24, 5'11", 215. Aspiring cartoonist, [illegible] art, music, bicycling, literature, and British comedy, long walks. ISO outgoing, attractive SF for good times, possible LTR. [illegible]

DON'T RESPOND TO THIS ISO UNLESS, YOU are an irresistible, intelligent and insightful SPF 25-40 looking to meet handsome DPM, 35 and share life's finer and [illegible] pleasures. [illegible]

ATTRACTIVE, YOUNG, ACTIVE, SENSITIVE, early 50's. Want to meet lovely, self-confident, healthy, NS, woman in 50's to share love of walking, hiking, biking, traveling, arts, fun and conversation leading to LTR. 8213

A VERY ATTRACTIVE, FIT AND CLEAN SWM, 5'11, [illegible] ISO a sexually active lady, 25-69 for a wonderful relationship. [illegible]

SWM, 35, 170, LT. BROWN HAIR, HAZEL eyes, very good shape. ISO F, 26-36, toned 5'5"-5'8" 125-135 lbs., open, honest and financially/emotionally secure. [illegible]

Call now!
1-800-710-8727
$[illegible] must be 18+
charge directly to your credit card.
any phone, anywhere, any time.

Or respond the old fashioned way:
CALL THE 900 NUMBER.
Call 1-900-370-7127
$1.99/min. must be 18+

Ask Lola the love counselor

Dear Lola,

I'm a high school student who doesn't smoke or drink or do drugs. I don't engage in risky sexual behavior. I get good grades and come home when I'm supposed to. In short, I've never given my parents any cause for concern. Lately I've become really good friends with a boy, and we would like to have a sleep-over together — like the sleep-overs I've been having for years with other girls. But my asshole parents, who pass themselves off as oh-so hip and socially progressive, have forbidden this innocent and light-hearted activity. How can I convince them that their attitude is dated, repressive, insupportable, illogical and hypocritical, not to mention heterosexist?

Model citizen in Monkton

Dear Model,

How much cash have you got on hand? I've found that most parents, no matter how "principled" they may appear on the surface, respond very nicely to the fresh green smell of money, especially at this time of the year. Alternatively, try blackmail. Threaten to tell your guidance counselor about your dad's 30-year-old stash, and they're bound to see the merits of your case.

Love,
Lola

Reach out to Lola
c/o SEVEN DAYS, P.O. Box 1164,
255 S. Champlain Street,
Burlington, VT 05402

person to PERSON

don't want a charge on your phone bill? call 1-800-710-8727 and use your credit card. 24 hours a day! $1.99 a minute. must be 18+

men seeking women, cont.

BRONZED ADONIS. CON OF PHYSICAL perfection [illegible] worshipper. Much good karma so [illegible] bestowed for you singular devotion. Join me for a glass of nectar? SWM, 30ish, healthy, strong, free. 8[illegible]

NEW TO BURLINGTON. SWPM, 31, 5', 185. German/Italian descent attractive ISO SF to explore Burlington social scene with. Am open to the concept of a possible relationship. 8[illegible]

SWM 6'0 A LOVING F 40-55. I AM CONSIDerate, good-looking guy [illegible] dark hair, blue eyes. F who is average for it, not over weight, has a sense of humor & enjoys life, but most of all is easy [illegible]

CRANKY LONER SWM, 39, THAT LAUGHS AT the army leftist, socialist, [illegible] romantic [illegible] doesn't [illegible] the answer [illegible] 8[illegible]

TEACHER WANTED: WM, 33, JUST EXITING long term monogamous relationship. ISO experienced F to help me refine and diversify. Age unimportant [illegible] and [illegible] Emphasis on mutual pleasure. 8[illegible]

PLAYMATE WANTED: SWF 18-25, TO SPOIL, pamper [illegible] a [illegible] vacation [illegible] sunny [illegible] SWPM, 48. Pool, jacuzzi, boating. A time of fun & frolick [illegible] 8[illegible]

TALL, HANDSOME GENTLEMAN, SENSITIVE, romantic, adventurous, ambitious with respectful. Enjoy music, food, travel, quiet evenings, snuggling. ISO SF, [illegible], attractive, energetic, communicative, principled, playful, sensual. Let's enjoy quality time. 8[illegible]

SOUL MATE FRA. JEWISH SPIRITUAL WOMEN, [illegible] see the love of [illegible]. 8[illegible]

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN' LOOKING TO TAKE A trip to the southwest? If you got the time and can handle some camping, let's talk. I'm middle aged, 5'9", 144 lbs. and flexible. 8[illegible]

"I'M GONNA GIVE YA TILL THE MORNIN" comes [illegible] Neil Young fan seeks [illegible] for long talks about love and the end of the world. 8[illegible]

NEW TO AREA, INTELLIGENT, SINCERE, SWM, [illegible] lean athletic build. Enjoys nature, traveling, dining out, soccer. Seeks, Fem. ISO [illegible], open-minded, unique gal with similar interests. Letters also welcome. 8[illegible]

BETTER EVERY DAY. ATTRACTIVE, NEAT SWPM, 5'8", 151 lbs, 42. Passionate about kids, life, love, romance. Adventurous emotionally, financially. ISO S/WF 35-42. Self dependent, reasonably fit. Love/LTR. 8[illegible]

EVERYBODY WANTS SOMETHING. ME: SPIRIT and Vibes come first. Knowledge & wisdom [illegible] Charm, grace, energy follow. I need fine, figured, mental beauty for mutual sharing of life's [illegible]. 8[illegible]

GREETINGS, MY NAME IS WAYNE. I'M 6'2", [illegible] lbs. [illegible] eyes [illegible] I want to hear from any F 21 and older who is honest and down to Earth. 8[illegible]

TALL AND ATTRACTIVE SWPM, 45, EDUCATed, adventurous [illegible]

NEED NO REPLY, JUST STOP BY WHERE THE S. Burlington mall buildings are blue. I will meet you. Think music. M, 50, ISO SF [illegible] for friendship. Let's [illegible] 8[illegible]

VULNERABLE GENTLEMAN, LATE 50S, GOOD-looking widower. Very [illegible] living [illegible]. If you're comfortable [illegible] with good disposition and would like to share an upscale lifestyle, call. Better, write. 8[illegible]

SWPM, SENSITIVE, KINDHEARTED, ENERGetic, fit, good-looking, Jewish, [illegible] outdoor adventures, long drives, exploring, travel, music, dancing. ISO NS, S/DWPF. Attractive, romantic, passionate, fit. F 25-45 for LTR. 8[illegible]

I AM A 31, SWJM, I LOVE AND NEED AFFECtion. I enjoy Chinese food, laughing and being a homebody. ISO pretty, baby faced, voluptuous lady who is nurturing and romantic. 8[illegible]

YOU: DARK ANGEL, TORTURED SOUL WITH warm heart. Smart, sexy and younger? Me: An intense, secure nice-looking, 41 YO guy and a [illegible] 8[illegible]

SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE WHO ENJOYS the [illegible] playing games, snowboarding, scuba diving, hiking, [illegible] music, and [illegible] Me: 25, short brown hair, blue eyes, 13[illegible] lbs. 8[illegible]

EARTHY & DECADENT DWM, 48, GOOD-looking. Home and business owner, loves the outdoors, also indoor pleasures. Mainstream with responsibilities, adventurous and fun with recreational time. ISO petite smart partner 35-50. 8[illegible]

DIRECT/SUBTLE, SPONTANEOUS, ADVENTURous, alive, strong, good-looking 41 SWMP who knows what to do but not controlling. ISO lovely SWF 27-37 who doesn't think genealogy and sex substitute for character. 8[illegible]

WIFE JUST UP AND LEFT THIS 38 TO BUY who must have been too busy working nights or fighting fires. Will someone else please give me a chance. 8[illegible]

NICE GUY. SWPM, 40, 6', 190, GREEN [illegible] with [illegible] dog of unknown [illegible] ISO athletic, game SWPF 28-38, dog-lover for Italian [illegible] Maybe more. Dog must stay here. 8[illegible]

women seeking women

BI-CURIOUS [illegible] SEEKING [illegible] aged [illegible] from [illegible] unimportant [illegible] reasonable [illegible] 8[illegible]

SINGLE MOM ISO LTR. 36, TALL, SHY independent in central VT off grid. [illegible] Firewood, hay, [illegible] big dogs, good boat, novels. Must be good w/kids. 8[illegible]

men seeking men

SGM, 21, SEEK NO FRIENDSHIP RELATION[illegible] If you are [illegible] and fun respond to my ad. 8[illegible]

SENSITIVE, POLITICALLY CORRECT-WHO This well-educated [illegible] athletic, attractive, [illegible] 185 lbs, 3[illegible] YO GWM enjoys laughter [illegible] be rude and crude and a little kinky. ISO M, 21-45, with adventurous spirit and capable of [illegible]. 8[illegible]

SUBMISSIVE WM, 35, WANTS TO PLEASE! Any recipient. I like to be told what to do! 8[illegible]

SUBMISSIVE 40 YO, 5'7" 145 LBS. LOOKing to worship [illegible] healthy guys to satisfy [illegible] and g[illegible] scenes. Discretion assured. 8[illegible]

HEY BUDDY: HAIRY CHEST, CAMO CLOTHing, tough truck, good [illegible] muscular, hardworking. Straight [illegible] bi-curious, married dome? Looking for a little hot man-to-man male bonding for a change? 8[illegible]

"ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!" HEY THAT'S IT [illegible] because [illegible] gay and an admirer of that chance. 8[illegible]

LETS CELEBRATE LIFE. HANDSOME GWM, slightly overweight. Seeking one to a sexual, [illegible] relationship where [illegible] supreme. You should be a clean cut, sober [illegible] 8[illegible]

GWM, 29, SEEKING MASCULINE, HAIRY chested man [illegible] guys a need of [illegible] Must be avail. mornings. Discretion assured. 8[illegible]

GREAT DISCREET FUN. GOOD-LOOKING, IN shape, 51 YO SWM, [illegible] lbs, [illegible] ISO M, D/D free, 18-40, good looking and in shape for discreet times. Burlington area. 8[illegible]

SWM, 5'8" 165. NICE, STRAIGHT-ACTING, yet [illegible] 45 YO. ISO young, [illegible] SWM who enjoys cuddling on cold winter nights. Call soon. Winter's coming! 8[illegible]

65 TO SWM ISO MALES, 18-35, FOR DISCREET get togethers [illegible] as you [illegible] Evenings, early mornings. In Northern/Central VT. 8[illegible]

BI-CURIOUS SWM, 5'8" 160 30S. INTERESTed in exploring this curiosity with another M, 30s [illegible] D/D free. Discretion a must. Your place only. No GM's please. 8[illegible]

HEY THIRD SHIFTERS! THIS LATE 30S GWM, good looks and attitude, recently started on third shift, would like to meet similar for after work drink and conversation, maybe more. 8[illegible]

other

MOUNTAIN MAN WHO IS SEEKING THE BEST [illegible] very [illegible] the [illegible] 8[illegible]

LADIES: ISO FANTASIES ABOUT BEING [illegible] Tying [illegible] BDSM [illegible] group welcomes you! Newbies! Don't be [illegible] led by a woman. Privacy [illegible] E-mail [illegible] 8[illegible]

MWM, [illegible] BI-CURIOUS, SEEKS MCU WITH [illegible] bi-curious [illegible] very discreet. 8[illegible]

TWO WILD SINGLE MEN ISO FIT, ATTRACTIVE [illegible] discreet rendezvous. Must be [illegible] minded and [illegible] 8[illegible]

YOUNG 20 YO M LOOKING FOR M OR F FOR erotic encounters. Discretion and safety a must. I am open-minded about anything. 8[illegible]

AWM SEEKING 5-6 MATURE GAY OR BI-CURIous M [illegible] 35-45. Please call [illegible] 8[illegible]

SUPPORT GROUP FOR BONDAGE, DOMInance, submission [illegible] Socials [illegible] in Hanover, Lincoln [illegible] 8[illegible]

personal of the week

I JUST WANT TO GET LAID!

I'm frustrated attractive Redheaded WF, 39, who needs a man who will help satisfy me while I satisfy him! Shape/Color unimportant!

8296

Personal of the Week receives a gift certificate for a FREE *Day Hiker's Guide to VT* from

[illegible]

and a $25 gift certificate to

DAILY Planet

[illegible] St., Burlington

ATTRACTIVE PRIVACU SEEKS TEMPTRESS. Early 40s, fit, clean, impeccably honest, trustworthy, safe. ISO S/D F for ongoing relationship. No BI experience needed, just desire to experience uninhibited, respectful pleasure. 8[illegible]

A VERY HANDSOME, FIT & CLEAN SWM, 30S, [illegible] mature and sexually active lady, 2[illegible]-[illegible] for a wonderful [illegible] 8[illegible]

EASY AS UM, DEUX, TROIS. TALL, ATTRACtive and healthy WM, 3[illegible] [illegible] sure with [illegible] imaginative CU [illegible] have fun. [illegible] respectful, uninhibited and discreet. 8[illegible]

SWF, 52, NOT WANTING TO LIVE ALONE OR settle for convenience. Looking for single [illegible] to join forces and become a team [illegible] and daily living. Heterosexual, not closed-minded. 8[illegible]

ATTRACTIVE SWM LOOKING FOR SIMPLE fun, pleasurable erotic times, long-lasting ISO MA/SF for discreet rendezvous. Race/age/size unimportant. Disease free. No strings. 8[illegible]

SWM, 18, SWINGER WANNABE. ISO OLDER [illegible] to teach me a few things. Must be in shape. Me: College student very good shape. 8[illegible] handsome 8[illegible]

20 YO SEEKS OVERWEIGHT (OVER 200 lbs.) [illegible] for erotic pleasures. Me: Very cut and athletic. 8[illegible]

CLEAN, ACTIVE, WIDOWED SENIOR M, ISO adventurous [illegible] group for fun and games. Age/race unimportant. 8[illegible]

i spy

TO WHOEVER [illegible] OUT THE RED BOOTS [illegible] [illegible] such. [illegible] driving them back! No questions asked. 8[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

11/24. YOU: CUTE BRUNETTE DRINKing with friends at round table by bar. Me: [illegible] quiet pint with friend. We made eye contact a couple of times. Any luck? 8487

RADICAL CHEERLEADERS, THE COOLEST girls in town. Would love to see next performance. From shy, [illegible] observer to green [illegible] 8[illegible]

MET ON SAT. AT BROWN'S ANIMAL HOSpital. You were [illegible] with a [illegible] black cat and daughter. We talked and laughed over expense of pets. Want to get together? 8484

I SPY ASS-KICKING FRIENDS AND A WELL-[illegible] waiter at my 25th birthday party in Sweet Tomatoes. Thank you. 8479

BANJO KICKIN' BEAUTY, BOTTLE [illegible] [illegible] Come [illegible] some tunes [illegible] 8477

NUDE AT NOW NOV. 29: ATTRACTIVE blonde [illegible] the [illegible] area and then weighed yourself on the scale. Is your relationship status the same as mine? 8473

TO THE BEAUTIFUL GIRL WHO WORKS AT the [illegible] 2 days. [illegible] you [illegible] I'm stuck at school. 8472

GAVIN: MY GLUTTON FOR PUNISHMENT. Your friendship, caffeine, and North Beach at [illegible] are all I need in life. Thanks for making VT a happy place. Sincerely, your eternal [illegible] 8471

NICE BOY IN BLACK BUG WITH SEXY RED [illegible] can't [illegible] without you [illegible] again [illegible] I get lonely [illegible] Miss you. 8469

MY GOD ITS GOOD TO SEE YOU. I LOVE that [illegible] and your [illegible] ORANA. Wanna share a gingerbread sometime? I [illegible] 8468

[illegible] [illegible]

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by eric orner

© Eric Orner

person to PERSON

to respond to a personal ad call 1-900-370-7127

we're open 24 hours a day! $1.99/minute. must be 18+

i spy, continued

I SPY YUPPIES IN FRONT OF STARBUCKS... Got a [illegible]. 8466

A BADGER HAVING FUR WREAKS HAVOC ON the male population. Ah, to playthings! Cheers. Casablanca.8465

MY DEAR SUNSHINE, COULD I POSSIBLY BE your pumpkinhead? You gave few kisses. Did we hold each other naked under a full moon while the stars fell around us? Call me 8462

I SPY A VISION IN PLAIN PANTS, TORTURING me with that wicked walk. You're back in NYC, miss you much. Am I a good friend now? Merry Christmas Ruthy! 8460

WILLYBEAN: YOU BETTER WATCH OUT 'cause it's not Santa who'd coming to town to go dancing with you!! Love from far away. Lily. 8458

YOU, CVU HOCKEY COACH, BROWN HAIR and sexy brown eyes that stops by Aubil, corner of Allen & Shelburne Rd. [illegible] Are you available/interested? 8457

AMELIA AT COSTCO MEMBERSHIP. WANTED to ask you out for coffee but very tricky to do while you're at work. Single? Let's meet; Life's too short. You won't be sorry.8455

EVERY TIME I COME IN TO GET MY OUT-bite bitter you are there radiating that sweet smile and twentysomething curves. Could you be happy to serve the likes of me. Our brief exchanges have left me thirsty for more. 8454

MY SUGAR [illegible]: THE MASSEUSE EXTRA-ordinaire, tall dark and handsome LB. Don't let the dark and gloomy weather get you down. Hope this adds a bit of sunshine to your day. Your Asian princess. 8495

MY SUGAR MOMMY: HOTT'S SUPERSTAR Australian goddess [illegible]. [illegible] you touch while you're away, keep in touch, you're welcome to crash on my couch anytime. Your Asian princess 8494

YOU: STEADFAST FIGHTER OF FILLINGS AND defender of all microchip implantees. Life! Grateful for all the work you have done. Good luck Maria. 8492

BABYCAKES: YOU'RE MY FAVORITE, NEVER forget that. Last night you were dancing in my dream, you're a good and I love it. Dollface. 8490

TO MY CREAMY SMOOTH PEANUT BUTTER. Happy belated birthday! Let's celebrate and get a little nuts. You know where to find me. Sweetness. (Jar of Jam) 8485

FRIDAY 11/16, S. UNION ST. ME: LEATHER fringe jacket w/beadwork. You asked if I was a cowboy named "Tex." Blonde gutted you away, let me lasso you into fun.8482

BIG AMERICAN PARTY! EVERYBODY DISCO-dancin'! Why? Because you're so awesome! I love you 8480

GIGGLING GODDESS AT BURLINGTON BAY Market, 11/28, noofing. Sales are so-so. Would love to laugh with you anytime/anywhere. Peace, love and good. 8479

HEMMINGAN, MY HEART AND ARMS ARE aching right now. PLEASE. Aol. 8477

SURVIVING, "FEELS LIKE OLD TIMES..." Thank you for everything during the past couple of weeks. I feel closer to you than ever, and my love for you was never stronger. Your prince forever, cute boy. 8476

BEAUTIFUL ART STORE GIRL; DEVER SEPTEM-ring. Too shy to talk to you, but thanks for smiling when I bought postcards. Just good sales practice, but made my day. 8475

MY POOR AXE GIRL WITH 18TH BROWN eyes. To the worst luck we ever had. It was... and because I spent it with you. Try Again? How bout next Sunday? 8473

TO JESSICA-AT WAITING: THE SEA JUMPS TO touch you, and I am full down. A distant wave, past it us divers, my words began, awaiting your return. Inc. 8471

I SPY SWEDISH RATIO WELCOME HOME Baller! 8470

HEY GIRLINGTON AND BOYLINGTON! THIS Green Mountain Girl wonder misses you awfully. Beloved Olympic trials are Dec. 22nd. I have to move up three spots to make it, cross your fingers! 8469

SASA KWA KENYA. LOVE THE ELEPHANTS, [illegible] the dikdiks! But I can't wait to see my love ho-tale in B'town. See you guys soon. Hinakupenda! Sparky. 8468

CONTINUOUS! I'M THE LUCKIEST BOY IN the world. Whatever I get for my birthday won't possibly beat the gift of you that I've already got. 8466

PACIFIC RIM DOG TIMBLING ON CHURCH/ Cherry. I was delighted to have you/I answered my spy. I'd love to run into you again, but I'd also love to [illegible] you or write. Can you help? 8465

PUMPKINHEAD: SORRY I SORRY WAVE. Didn't salsa I should SORRY for all my mistakes. R U happy? I miss all our fun times. Thinkin' of you often. Sorry. Love Sunshine. 8463

HEY THERE SEXY MAIL GUY. LOVE OUR daily chats. Too chicken to ask you to your face but think we should do something together soon. 8462

FTB, WTE, LOML. HAVING THE TIME OF my life with scary movies, fine wine, baking-lessons and you. Each morning is more breathtaking than the last. Can't wait 'til tomorrow. LUVULOTS.8460

DEW: THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP. LOVE and understanding through the "big break". You are an extraordinary man. I love you! Box.8457

RED (POWER), I'M MELTING DOWN HERE IN the dizzy South & I miss you. I can't find your number & I'm tired of calling Jay's Machine. Call me. Mere. 8455

AUBERS SECOND FLOOR, SATURDAY 11/17, late afternoon. YOU: Spanish-looking, long dark hair in ponytail, sideburns. ME: sincere Goth-looking leather-clad blonde. That guy wasn't my boyfriend. 8453

SWAN: NEW STICKER ON MY WATER BOTTLE and the scruff is gone, am I the "[illegible] child" you spied? Find a way to let me know. 8452

YOU: DARK BLONDE SHOULDER LENGTH hair, grayish t-shirt w/symbol on front [illegible]. You took one of flowers while I worked and myself waited for soup/sandwich. Me: Short dark blue work coat, hat, jeans, [illegible]. I wanted to say more but you left me speechless. Try again if your single? 8449

MARY & BEARD, LEUNIG'S BAR, HALLOWEEN Night. We spoke of travels, of work & "situations." You said you liked my style, I loved your fragrance. Man with the hat. 8448

AARON, AARON YOUR SO HOT, SO DAMN hot. I want to grease your greasy [illegible]. Your better than biscuit butter dark Cheese! Would you give me a kiss? Pretty please? 8445

letters only

To respond to Letters Only ads: Seal your response in an envelope, write Box # on the outside and place in another envelope with $5 for each response. Address to: PERSON TO PERSON c/o SEVEN DAYS, PO Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402.

women seeking men

ADVENTUROUS, WELL-ADJUSTED, SWF, 36, 5'7", who enjoys healthy activities, outdoors, never married. ISO humorous, fun, sporty, dog-loving, peaceful, SM, 35-45. Box 1080

SWF PLUS-SIZED, OVER 50, MED. TALL, youthful, "unpolished stone" in search of "jeweler." NY/VT Companionship first, marriage possible. Already married? Don't apply. Box 1077

SWF 24, 5'4", ATTRACTIVE, FIT AND FUNNY Loves cooking, Rutles, hunting, horseback riding, you get the idea. ISO tall, handsome, fit, SWM NS gentleman only. Friendship first. Send picture. Box 1069

FRIENDLY OUTGOING, 30 YO SWF. I ENJOY hiking, dining out and dancing. ISO NS 30-37 YO SM for possible LTR. Friendship first. Box 1068

WDF 38 NUTS OVER MT., PAR, WWF CRAZY about SBY. Admires Magnus Samuelsson. Loves skiing, fishing and weight lifting. Looking for the guys who enjoy the same. Box 1064

PREVIOUSLY BIT: MR. SCAM, MR. MARRIED, Mr. Psycho, Mr. Cheap, Mr. Substance Abuser and Mr. Mommy's Boy. Nice guys, show your faces please. SWF 5'5" [illegible] perfect. NY/VT. Nice lady seeks companionship, possible marriage. Box 1061

50+ "KNIGHTS IN SHINING ARMOR" [illegible]lation: No mammals, [illegible], blind man. Here's your quest: Damsel in distress (read: SWF, tall, fluffy, conglomeration of P.T. Barnum, Kafka, [illegible] Pearl). Companion? LTR? Marriage? Box 1060

SWF, 42, ISO POSSIBLE LTR W/MM, 40+, who is fulfilling, has sense of humor. Likes simple life & kids (mine are grown). [illegible] a plus, movies, dancing, baseball. Box 1055

men seeking women

DWM, NS, ND, GREAT PERSONALITY. WELL-known. Seeks SF 35-50, a child OK, who enjoys boating (& who is fit, [illegible]) attractive. Must love family. Box 1086

46 YO, SPIRITUALLY MOTIVATED PHILAN-thropist. SO has the wealthy and wise woman to share love, life. God. Box 1084

DWM, EARLY 50'S, VERY CUTE, EDUCATED, clean cut. ISO attractive, intelligent, older, unmarried woman for naughty encounters, possibly on long-term basis. Box 1083

DWM, 40, 6', 200 LBS., BEARD, FROM NY state retro. Physically fit and active, hardworking, honest, good sense of humor, enjoy nature, animals, coffee and food. ISO SF w/same qualities for fun, LTR. Box 1082

WINTER IS COMING. I'LL KEEP YOU WARM IF you are a WF 35-45 who is seeking a younger WM with warm hands and heart. [illegible] lbs., very romantic, sincere and sexy. Box 1079

SWM, 46, 5'8", GOOD LOOKS, AVERAGE build, affectionate, warm-hearted, NS. Seeks S/WF, slender, trim, 38-46, for walks in the woods to fine wine and dining. Where are you? Box 1071

SEEKING F'S, 18-38, FOR SENSUAL MASSAGE and discreet sexual encounters. All races and sizes encouraged to respond. Will answer all. Box 1070

SM, 5'5", 140 LBS, CLEAN, SAFE AND DIS-creet. [illegible] woman to [illegible] and humiliate me as their total slave. Will answer all who are interested. Box 1074

SWM, 45, 6', 200 LBS, BEARD, FROM NY state retro. Physically fit and active, hardworking, honest, good sense of humor. Enjoy nature, animals, coffee, food. ISO SF w/same qualities for fun, LTR. Box 1082

I AM A ACTIVE DWM, 38, 5'11" 160 LBS., brown hair/eyes. I enjoy just about everything that most do. I would love to enjoy you, an active SWF. Box 1080

DOWN-TO-EARTH, YOUNG (50), DWM, Robert Redford type seeks a fit SF for dinner, massage & romance. Coffee first, discreet later? Discreet, safe, no strings. Photo preferred. Box 1072

DWM, 39, 6'1" 190, ATTRACTIVE, FIT, CLEAN, healthy, happy. NS, ND. ISO S/MWF, slender to full figure, 18-55, [illegible] lips, blondish, [illegible]. Central VT [illegible]. Box 1063

IMPERFECT MALE ISO PERFECT FEMALE: DWM 30, [illegible]. Must enjoy architecture, [illegible] & Napoleon [illegible]. Kafka & [illegible] with kids, dogs & traveling [illegible] UK. [illegible] or artist a plus. Box 1057

VT TEDDY BEAR NEEDS HIS HONEY. WOULD love to wine and dine you and cuddle too. [illegible] Box 1052

SWM, 40, LONELY, WANTS CORRESPON-dence. Northeast Kingdom native, 5'9", slim, med. build, [illegible] hammers. Loves hiking, [illegible], outdoors. Lives in [illegible] of the Simpsons, long walks on the beach. Box 1050

women seeking women

SWF, 42, PISCES, FIT, WONDERFUL, HAPPY woman. [illegible] seeking good-humored, good-hearted [illegible] woman [illegible] loving heart 35-45ish. Box 1086

WOMAN, 40, SEEKING THOUGHTFUL WOMAN, 38-45, willing and able to do the work (and play!) of being in a relationship should be reasonably (not fanatically!) fit, enjoy hiking and [illegible]. Box 1065

men seeking men

FIRST TIME, 42 TO BIM, WANTS SLENDER (under 160 lbs.) ISO A-S free BiM for my [illegible]. Can host. All answered with detailed letter including name, address and phone #. Box 1173

DWM, 5'10" 185 LBS., 49 YO. LOOKING FOR a GM, 20-48 yrs to help pass the long, cold winter nights. I am caring, generous and blonde. Looking for a friend and maybe more. Box 1067

VT HIGGINS LOOK ALIKE GWM, YOUNG 60'S, 5'9" 150 lbs. I like walks, bingo, country music. Seeking friends 50+ w/similar interests. Need time to warm up. Box 1063

BIM WITH HOT LIPS ISO MEN WHO WOULD enjoy them. 3 he build. Won't stop until told to. Answer all who send detailed letters of what they want. Box 1062

MATURE DWM SEEKS COMPATIBLE BUDDY. [illegible] hikes, cross-country skiing, conversation, day trips, dinners in/out. [illegible] Neat, trim, sense of humor, education. Burlington area a plus. Box 1058

HONEST, CARING, SINCERE, GWM, 65, 5'8", 145, enjoys hikes, walks and country music. ISO honest, caring GWM, 45-65. Friendship first and maybe more later. Box 1054

other

ISO BEAUTIFUL, SEDUCTIVE WOMAN FOR hire. I want to give my wife a seductive massage as a holiday gift from her husband. Will pay prevailing massage rate. Box 1072

AVERAGE BWCU, LATE 40'S. ISO CLEAN, NS, NA, ND CU for discrete adult weekend fun. VT/NY Lake Champlain area. Box 1070

HOT ATTRACTIVE BWM, 5'10" 170, ATHLETE ISO F, attractive CUs 30s-40s, for discreet liaisons. Send letter w/photo to receive same. Or advertise in "Letters" section and I will respond! Box 1050

just friends

SF HETEROSEXUAL, SEEKS SWEET SOME-[illegible] silly feminist, gay friendly, intelligent, loquacious liberals. SM or SW, NS, ND 18-30. My wheat has shouldn't matter. Box 1076

i spy

YOU: BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, DARK LIBRARY. Short skirt and knee-high boots. Doubt Me? A little weird but cute, soul on fire. You can help. Box 1085

4 digit box numbers can be contacted either through voice mail or by letter. 3 digit box numbers can only be contacted by letter. Send letter along w/ $5 to PO Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402.

LOVE IN CYBERSPACE. POINT YOUR WEB BROWSER TO HTTP://WWW.SEVENDAYSVT.COM TO SUBMIT YOUR MESSAGE ON-LINE

Person to Person

YOUR AD

____

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____

Confidential Information

(WE NEED THIS TO RUN YOUR AD)

NAME____________________
ADDRESS____________________
CITY__________ STATE______
ZIP________ PHONE__________

30 WORDS FREE!*

PLEASE [illegible] A VALID ADDRESS. AND PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

*IF AD EXCEEDS 30 WORDS, SEND $2 PER EXTRA WORD.

[illegible]

How to place your FREE personal ad with Person to Person

Fill out the form and mail it to: [illegible] Personals, PO Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402 or fax to 802-865-1015. Please check appropriate category below. You will receive your box # & passcode by mail. Deadline: Wednesdays by five.

•First 30 words are FREE with Person to Person. Additional words are $2 each extra word.

•Free retrieval 24 hours a day through the private 800 #. (Details will be mailed to you when you place your ad.) It's safe, confidential and fun!

[illegible]

How to respond to a personal ad:

Choose your favorite ads and note their box numbers.

•Call 1-900-370-7127 from a touch-tone phone. 1-900# blocked? Call 1-800-710-8727 to charge to your credit card.

•Following the voice prompts, punch in the 4-digit box # of the ad you wish to respond to, or you may [illegible].

Calls cost $1.99 per minute. You must be over 18 years old.

•Ads in LETTERS ONLY section [illegible] can be contacted only through the mail. Seal your response in an envelope, write the box # on the outside and place in another envelope with $5 for each response. Address to: Personals, c/o PO Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402.

CIRCLE ONE

Four FREE weeks for:
WOMEN SEEKING MEN
MEN SEEKING WOMEN
WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN
MEN SEEKING MEN

Two FREE weeks for:
I SPY
JUST FRIENDS
OTHER

☐ CHECK HERE IF YOU'D PREFER LETTERS ONLY

Twas Christmas broach'd the mightiest ale;

Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.
Sir Walter Scott (1808)

We value our customers dearly so as you enjoy the holidays we urge you to take care.

Giant Bavarian 4^{99}

Frankfurt Mug 3^{99}

Short Pilsner 5^{49}

Classic Flute ~~4^{99}~~ 3^{99}

12oz Wine ~~4^{99}~~ 3^{99}

8oz Wine ~~4^{99}~~ 3^{99}

Mixing Glass 16oz 2^{99}

Classic Corkscrew 3^{99}

10^{99} Adjustable Stopper

14^{99}

Shaker & Mini Shaker
For those who like it "shaken not stirred"
6^{99}

Bar Set 29^{99}

4pc Wine Set 29^{99}

Pier 1 imports
Associate store

52 Church Street
On the Marketplace
Burlington
863-4644

Holiday Hours
Mon. - Sat.. 10A-9P
Sun 11A-6P

Pier 1 Associate Store #933 Is Locally Owned And Operated